

life office in the world.

Subnormal girl's detention outrages judge

From our Correspondent, Wolverhampton

A judge said yesterday it was outrageous that no hospital place can be found for Julie Garratt, a mentally subnormal girl, aged 19, who has been held in custody since August after being convicted of assault. At the time it was said she needed secure treatment for life.

Judge Berwyn Talbot, who was forced to remand Garratt in custody again, said at Wolverhampton Crown Court: "I cannot restrain myself from my indignation. I am not concerned with administrative claptrap. I want this poor unfortunate girl to be found a place in hospital. She has been languishing in custody week by week. It really is a public scandal."

"It is a wicked thing and an appalling state of affairs. I want it to be brought to the attention of the whole nation."

"It is a most appalling situation when this girl cannot be found a bed and cannot be looked after, I have no alternative but to leave her at the remand centre because the health authority will not find her a bed. It is a scandal that she should be kept in conditions like this, something that anyone with human sympathy must feel."

"She has now been before the court four times and still nothing has been done. It is no good leaving her in the equivalent of a prison, it is a wicked thing to do."

The Dudley Area Health Authority will have to seriously consider paying for her to be kept in hospital. I hope that a public enquiry is asked for so that the case can be investigated. I want it raised at the highest possible level if only to ensure it does not happen again."

"It must go before Parliament and I hope that the minister will be induced to find an answer to this outrageous state of affairs."

Up, up and away go the dustbin liners

By Ronald Faux

Flying shopping bags and airborne dustbin liners are proving an irritation for the Civil Aviation Authority, which has received a barrage of applications from enthusiasts who build balloons out of those unlikely materials, and register them.

"We have to treat these flying machines seriously, even though many are made merely to obtain a registration number. They could be a hazard if they were released," a CAA official said.

About 300 such non-manned balloons have been registered with the authority. Ways of removing the regulations to exclude plastic bags are being considered.

The reason for the rash of odd balloons is probably that they offer a cheap way of appearing on the official list of aircraft owners and thus securing a registration number. Plane-spotting in Britain attracts the same zeal as did train-spotting in the heyday of steam.

The enthusiasts find personal registration very appealing, especially when the so-called aircraft can be built for a few pence, and having it registered costs only £5.

The law states that any balloon that is flown and measures more than 2 metres across must have a registration number. The aircraft authority explained that that was a safety measure in case the balloon drifted into an airline, into the engine of a passing jet, or descended in the middle of a motorway.

"The intention seems to be that these balloons are not for flying even though they acquire a registration number. Some miniature balloons that are flown are really very handsome and separate interest. We have to take an all-round view and include these supermarket bags and dustbin liners in the same 'group', the CAA said.

Mailer accepts verdict on protégé is fair

From Michael Hamlyn, New York, Jan 22

Norman Mailer, the writer, said yesterday that he thought the manslaughter verdict against his protégé Jack Abbott, the jailhouse author, was appropriate.

"I think it was a fair verdict," he said, adding that he was highly dubious that Mr Abbott was guilty of premeditation.

Mr Abbott had faced a charge of murder for killing a woman outside a Greenwich Village bistro while he was out of jail on a work release programme. But his counsel impressed the jury by describing the convict-writer's life in institutions, which he claimed had brutalized him and so confused him that he was acting under "extreme emotional disturbance."

Mr Abbott admitted stabbing the waiter, a newly married actor and aspiring playwright called Richard Adan; but said that he thought Mr Adan was threatening him.

The judge will sentence him on February 24 after psychiatric testing. It was Mr Abbott's thirty-eighth birthday yesterday, and he has spent 24 of those years in penal institutions. He says he has spent 15 years in solitary confinement. He wrote to Norman Mailer after the publication of Mr Mailer's book on Gary Gilmore, and a correspondence developed which Mr Mailer was instrumental in having published as *In The Belly Of The Beast*. The book is a best seller.

Mr Mailer also sponsored the convict's release from jail, and gave him work as a literary researcher. But his protégé proved unable to cope with life on the outside.

Mr Mailer has had a great deal of criticism for his support of Mr Abbott since the murder took place. News-papers have editorialized against him, urging him to "get his head on straight" (New York News), or recall-

ing that he himself stabbed his wife in the stomach 20 years ago.

"It takes a lot of faith in the creative possibilities of the human being to envisage acts of violence as the catharsis which prepares growth". He had a stormy press conference during the trial in which he pleaded for leniency for Mr Abbott, but he lost his temper and called one woman journalist a

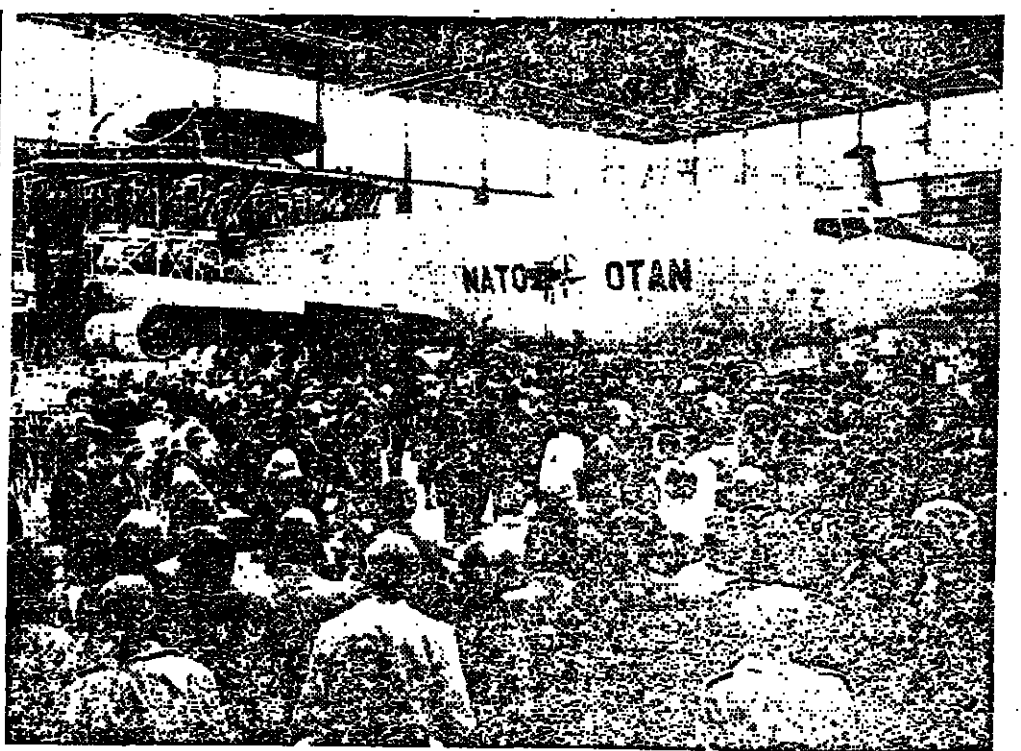
But other writers have been more supportive. At a special conference held jointly by Pen, the writers' association and the Fortune Society which helps ex-prisoners, William Styron, author of *Sophistic Choice* said that his heart went out to Mr Mailer because "I have an Abbott in my life". His protégé in prison was about to be paroled when he bolted, kidnapped and raped a Massachusetts housewife.

"I haven't lost faith in him," Mr Styron said. "I hope to be able to walk with him through New York City sometime soon." And Katherine Perutz who is a novelist and the founder of Pen's correspondence programme among writers in and out of prison related one case that — so far — has a happy outcome.

She told of a former drug addict who left prison and returned to the street. She said he told her: "Everyone else is shooting up, but not me. I'm a writer."

There was not a great deal of further support from that meeting. Edward Albee, author of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* called the Abbott trial an "appalling circus."

Mr Abbott has previous convictions. He has already been convicted of bank robbery and of killing a fellow prisoner. But the judge has a good deal of flexibility



The first of NATO's 18 A-1Hs aircraft in Europe being handed over to the allied forces near Munich yesterday. The aircraft, costing about £1,000m, will be deployed near Aachen on the German-Dutch border by 1985.

PUBLISHER GIVEN LIFE SENTENCE

From Jacqueline Reditt, Seoul, Jan 22

Spectators in a packed court shouted, waved their fists and wept today after Mr Lee Tae Bok, the South Korean publisher, had been sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr Lee, aged 30, a Roman Catholic, was found guilty of violating the national security law and the state prosecutor had demanded the death penalty. He was accused of publishing and distributing banned foreign books, mostly by Marxist authors, and of organizing student and labour groups with the aim of spreading communist ideals and overthrowing the government.

Although the prosecution originally claimed that only 18 people were involved in Mr Lee's case, 25 defendants stood trial with him today. His former editor, Lee Son Kun, was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

Seoul tries again for Korean reunification

From Our Correspondent, Seoul, Jan 22

President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea today made a new offer of peaceful cooperation with the Communist regime of North Korea. He proposed a formula for reunification and made it clear that his 1981 proposals to exchange visits with President Kim Il-Sung of North Korea were still valid.

President Chun made the initiatives in new year policy statement to the National Assembly. This is the first time since 1967 that a Korean President has made his new year speech to Parliament and was intended to show that parliament is again a significant force and that democracy has been restored in South Korea.

The reunification formula calls for the organization of a consultative conference for national reunification. North and South participants of this body would draft consti-

tutions to be forged into a single draft for a unified democratic republic of Korea.

First step would be talks to arrange a summit between the two Koreas and then a provisional agreement of basic relations. Included in the provisions of this agreement, President Chun proposed recognition of each other's socio-political system, non-interference in internal affairs, an end to the arms race and military confrontation, the setting up of resident liaison missions in Seoul, free travel and communication between North and South, and respect for each other's international agreements until unification.

The last clause would counter the North's demand for the removal of United States troops from the South as a prerequisite for negotiations.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Drug arrests filmed for 'Police'

Arrests for suspected drug trafficking and possession during the pop festival in Reading were filmed for the latest programme in the television series *Police*, about the workings of the Thames Valley force (David Nicholson-Lord writes).

The programme, to be shown on BBC1 on Monday, shows the discovery of what drug squad detectives initially believed may have been £25,000 worth of drugs, possibly LSD, in a girl's plastic bag.

But tests proved that the detectives' belief was mistaken and the girl was finally given a suspended sentence for attempting to cheat her customers.

Personal appeal for nuns

A convent worried about its dwindling numbers is advertising in the personal columns of local newspapers for novices.

The Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, in Old London Road, Hastings, Sussex, feel a newspaper advertisement may encourage women and girls to think more about religion. Two women have responded so far.

Police forbid marches

A planned march through Halifax by members of the right-wing British Movement today has been banned by Calderdale Council on the advice of Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire.

Counter-demonstrations had been threatened by left-wing organizations, members of Halifax's immigrant community and the Anti-Nazi League. The police said the ban on all marches from 6am today had been recommended because of the possibility of public disorder.

Former boxing champion jailed

Tommy Glencross the former British featherweight boxing champion jailed for 18 months yesterday for slashing a man's face in a fight in a Birmingham public house.

Glencross, aged 34 of Nursery Road, Newtown, Birmingham was convicted at an earlier Birmingham Crown Court hearing of malicious wounding. He had denied the charge. Sentence had been adjourned for medical reports.

Ferries cancelled

Sealink ferries to Guernsey were cancelled yesterday and flights from the island delayed as about 1,300 government workers took industrial action in support of a 10.7 per cent pay claim. The Government has offered them 8 per cent.

Scarman condemns ethnic schooling

By Sarah Bayliss, of "The Times Educational Supplement"

Lord Scarman delivered a strong condemnation of separate schools for the children of ethnic minorities yesterday.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Society of Education Officers in London, he said: "I would wish with absolute horror the development of these schools. It would be terrible if there were separate Islamic or Hindu schools."

In answer to a question from Mr Edwin Owens, chief education officer of North Yorkshire, about the desirability of ethnic minorities being allowed to set up their own schools, Lord Scarman said his experience in Northern Ireland told him that one

cause of the troubles there was the separate education of Protestant and Roman Catholic children. "I do not want that to be mirrored in this country."

Lord Scarman, whose report on the Brixton riots was published yesterday, said that education officers had a big responsibility to try to unite British society. Some basic educational problems had to be tackled if summer riots were to be avoided in future.

The biggest responsibility was to ensure that children learnt in primary school to speak good English, as well as to read and write. He had met a number of employers whose willingness to employ young blacks was frustrated because the teenagers were inarticulate. Better liaison between schools and parents was also needed. From conversations with West Indian parents he knew that many did not feel welcome or at ease in schools.

"I am bound to say that some well meaning head teachers are simply not succeeding in getting parents involved."

Positive action was needed in secondary schools to help children to prepare for the competitiveness of the jobs market. Given the prospect of continued unemployment, schools should also train children how to use and enjoy their leisure time with more emphasis on art, music and sport. "Many of these rioters rioted from sheer damn boredom", he said.



Lord Scarman: More emphasis on leisure time.

CAMBRIDGE EXAM MAY BE EARLIER

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Cambridge University is considering moving the date of its entrance examination from the autumn term of the third year in the sixth form to the end of the spring term preceding A levels. It is hoped that the move will be of particular benefit to pupils in comprehensive schools. Oxford has no plans to follow suit.

The proposal, put forward by a working party of college admissions tutors, will be discussed by a meeting of all college representatives next Friday.

Fewer than half last year's successful applicants to Cambridge came from maintained schools.

The number of scholarships and exhibitions available at Oxford is to be reduced next year to no more than a quarter of each college's intake.

Congregation, representing all the academic staff at Oxford, has rejected by 511 votes to 439 a proposal that fees should no longer be paid to examiners or supervisors of graduate students. The proposal that the undergraduate School of Agricultural and Forest Sciences at Oxford should be closed was approved by 553 votes to 217.

APPEAL ON TV LEVY REJECTED

By Kenneth Gosling

A Report by the Committee on Welsh Affairs is commended in a government White Paper out today as a thorough and perceptive appraisal of the question of Welsh language broadcasting.

The Government takes issue, however, with a recommendation that interest payments on capital borrowed by television programme contractors should be allowed as relevant expenditure for levy purposes.

"The Government is aware," the White Paper says, "that the exclusion of interest paid from relevant expenditure can weigh heavily on those independent television companies with high capital borrowings. It is also aware of the committee's concern about the viability of the television programme contractor for Wales. It sees difficulty, however, in the committee's recommendation."

The Government saw no reason why an advantage, in terms of levy liability, should be conferred on companies preferring loan capital to equity shareholdings. Moreover, to allow interest payments to count as relevant expenditure would allow considerable scope for levy avoidance.

Most Sunday papers talk business.

Only one has always made a separate issue of it.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The Sunday Times Business News. The supplement devoted entirely to the world of business.

In tomorrow's issue, "The end of the De Lorean dream?"

Tax rise for US delayed by White House

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Jan 22

President Reagan has delayed a decision on whether to double excise taxes on liquor and luxury goods after reviewing public opinion sampling which showed strong opposition officials said.

Mr Reagan told Mr David Gergen, the White House Communications Director yesterday, to deny widely circulated reports that he had approved temporary increases in taxes on cigarettes, liquor and other luxuries to raise an additional \$15,000m (£7,890m) in federal revenues in the 1983 financial year. Accordingly, Mr Gergen told reporters that the President had not yet made up his mind on several big policy decisions he expects to announce in his State of the Union message next Tuesday.

Instead, Mr Reagan has asked his policy advisers to produce new ways of narrowing a massive federal deficit expected to climb to \$100,000m in fiscal 1983.

The President planned to review the new proposals over the weekend at his Camp David retreat in Maryland, Mr Gergen said.

Mr Reagan's apparent change of mind on the excise tax proposals stems from his meetings and conversations with business and congressional leaders who strongly oppose them on the grounds that they hurt the working man, a senior official said. In addition, the sophisticated White House polling apparatus, which daily checks the pulse of

American opinion, showed strong public opposition to the taxes, White House officials disclosed.

Mr Reagan has been considering these limited tax increases as a means of both increasing the federal deficit and financing a controversial new programme transferring control of important social programmes to the revenue-starved states. This programme of "New Federalism", consisting of revenues and responsibilities transferred from Washington to state governments is expected to be a focal point of Mr Reagan's State of the Union message.

At present, however, it is not clear whether Mr Reagan can finance the transfer of some 40 programmes to the states without additional excise taxes, Administration officials said.

The President's reluctance to increase taxes is known and has been repeated by him in press conferences and public statements. He agreed to consider limited tax increases only at the urging of key Republicans alarmed by estimates of a mushrooming federal deficit.

The President is reported to have approved new spending cuts for fiscal 1983 of close to \$31,000m but this will not be enough to reduce the projected deficit appreciably.

At Camp David, Mr Reagan must decide whether the political consequences of increasing unpopular taxes to reduce the deficit only slightly is worth the risk.

Reagan embarrassed by press interview errors

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Jan 22

President Reagan has been involved in an embarrassing series of press interview errors which have caused him to be embarrassed by his own press interviewers.

White House spokesmen have tried to explain his statements and the President has defended an answer he gave on unemployment.

But his officials have had to admit that he got some of his statistics wrong, and an answer he gave on the Pope's support for United States measures taken over Poland has drawn an apparent rebuke from the Vatican.

Furthermore, the President's failure to reply directly when asked if he believed Mr Paul Volcker should resign as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board left spokesmen with the task of clarifying the position. The President had not meant to imply he was asking for a resignation.

The most marked error he made was his contention that rising unemployment was "a continuation of an increase that got under way" in the last months of the Carter administration.

In fact, unemployment declined from 7.6 per cent to 7.4 per cent during President Carter's last three months in office.

After the press conference a White House spokesman said Mr Reagan "mis-spoke" on unemployment, but next day, while saying he was

distressed by reports that he had mis-stated his figures the President defended a claim that "there are a million more people working than there were in 1980".

As in sanctions on Poland, he said he had received a letter from the Pope saying he "approves of what we've done so far". But the Vatican, in a statement interpreted as a mild rebuke, said that the support the Pope had expressed in a letter on January 4 in reply to two from President Reagan was "not of a political nature".

A spokesman said yesterday that the White House had made good-faith effort to check facts about an Arizona programme to feed elderly people. At his conference Mr Reagan had praised it for cutting costs while doubling the number of people fed.

It transpired that people were working on the programme as volunteers because federal grants had been cut and the increase in the number being fed was a result of the closure of other government-sponsored facilities.

Mr Reagan asked at his conference that the Administration should not be judged by its mistakes, but commentators are increasingly drawing attention to his own slips of memory and fact.

Gibraltar's jail called grotesque

By David Cross

Prison conditions in Gibraltar's Moorish Castle appear not to have improved much since it was built in the mid-fourteenth century by Abu al Hassan, the Moroccan monarch who captured the Rock from the Spaniards.

Not only is the jail too cramped for the 25 or so prisoners it normally holds; the conditions are described as "grotesquely primitive" and the inmates as "zombie-like".

In a report just published in London under the title A Prison 1,000 years old, the Howard League for Penal Reform says a new prison should be built in the British colony urgently.

The report was compiled by Mrs Jane Bloom-Cooper, a board member of Holloway Prison and wife of Mr Bloom-Cooper, chairman of the league. Mrs Bloom-Cooper visited the prison last April with the approval of the Gibraltar authorities.

"The prisoners live exposed to the elements", she wrote, "in the absence of glass windows the seasonal wind can blow the rain and moisture right into the cells."

As there were no corridors, staff and inmates had to go out in all weathers even for food and the lavatories.

According to the report, prisoners and staff believe they have been abandoned by the Government and people of Gibraltar.

Mrs Bloom-Cooper submits "that the Government of Gibraltar is in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Council of Europe Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners".

Puzzling absence of Premier

Colombo — The whereabouts of Mr R. Premadasa, the Prime Minister, who went to San Francisco last month for gall bladder surgery and the reasons for the delay in his return are the subject of intense political speculation. (Our Correspondent writes).

Initial criticism of the large entourage he took with him has been overtaken by concern at his failure to return to Sri Lanka. His absence will only confirm that he has left San Francisco and is "re recuperating" while on the return journey to Colombo but it is not saying where.

France goes a head with retirement at sixty

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan 22

After introducing the 39-hour week, the French Government has decided in principle to lower the retirement age from 65 to 60, beginning in April next year. This was part of the election manifesto of President Mitterrand, and is one of a series of measures to be taken between now and the end of March which will directly benefit ordinary French men and women.

The decision on retirement at 60 with full pension, calculated on the basis of the salary of the 10 best years, will be published at the end of February.

One of the conditions is that those retiring must have contributed to the national pensions scheme for 37 and a half years, or not 39, or even 42, the Government contemplated at one time. The measure will affect about 600,000 workers who, at

EEC show disapproval of Ankara

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Jan 22

The European Parliament yesterday voted to end its links with Turkish parliamentarians as a protest against the actions of the military regime in Ankara. Relations with Turkey through the joint EEC-Turkey committee will be suspended "until such time as the Turkish National Assembly has been freely elected in a secret ballot by direct universal suffrage and has taken office", according to the resolution carried yesterday.

The joint committee delegation is chaired by Herr Ludwig Fellmerauer, a West German Socialist, and its 18 members include three conservatives and one British Labour MEP.

Carried by a narrow margin with only about a quarter of MEP's present, the resolution condemned the military regime's violence and in particular "the mock trial now under way in Istanbul of leaders of the democratic forces".

The European Democratic (Conservative) group, not at full strength, voted against every section of the resolution, which had been tabled by Communists and their allies. Few Christian Democrats were present to support the opposition and the Liberals abstained on the grounds that the political committee of Parliament is meeting next week to formulate an all-party declaration.

Besides asking the President of Parliament to take action to help 52 trade union leaders whose lives are in danger, the resolution reiterated Parliament's request to the Council of Ministers to suspend all Community financial aid to Turkey "until respect for human and civil rights and democratic liberties is once again assured".

Mr Adam Ferguson, MEP for Strathclyde, West, spokesman for the Conservatives, said: "This resolution was put forward precisely to throw sand in the eyes of everyone who is trying to expose the actions of the military regime in Poland." "In the foreign affairs debate yesterday speaker after speaker rejected attempts by left-wing parties to equate the actions of the military junta in Turkey with the Russian-directed military operations in Poland. The circumstances in which the military coups happened and the dangers they pose to world peace are totally different."

Hitler dreamt of the world's biggest train

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 22

Secret plans by Hitler to build a transcontinental railway, with engines and carriages the size of houses, have been unearthed by a West German railway official. The double-deck trains were to have been 22ft 5ins high and 19ft 5ins wide, running on tracks with a gauge of 9ft 10ins.

The engines which were supposed to pull the trains at speeds of about 155mph were to be up to 133ft 7ins long and some had 52 axles. Inside, the carriages were to be fitted with the luxury and elegance of a transatlantic liner. The system was planned to traverse what Hitler hoped would one day

be his Greater German Reich from the River Volga to Paris from Hamburg to Istanbul. They carried a "strictly secret" classification and were known only to a handful of engineers. The Third Reich fell while the plans were still on the drawing board.

They were discovered by accident by Herr Anton Joachimsthaler, a Munich railway official. He found further plans, drawings and information in the West German and East German state archives, among the papers of railway planners who had died and in conversations with those still alive.

In a book entitled *Die Bräutigam des Reiches* (The Bridegroom of the Reich), published by Eisenbahn-Kurier Verlag, Freiburg, he traces the progress of the great transport project from its inception, a suggestion by Fritz Todt, the predecessor of Albert Speer as Hitler's Armaments Minister.

After the first successes of Hitler's march into Russia, he proposed a wide-gauge railway to transport large quantities of goods from the Ukraine to Upper Silesia in what is now Poland. Within his megalomaniac imagination Hitler fancied himself as master builder and was already working on projects

for the larger German cities. He envisaged great stations for the new trains in which — Speer recalled — "the architecture and with it the power of the Reich was to overwhelm travellers, literally to slay them".

At first, his Reichsbahn engineers thought in terms of 13 or 16ft gauges before settling on 9ft 10ins. Even then the trains were twice as long and twice as wide as normal with one carriage having the capacity of eight ordinary carriages.

The planned eight-carriage trains could carry 1,728 passengers against a normal 15-carriage train's 720 passengers. The upper deck of the last carriage was to be an observation compartment.

There were plans for first-class passengers to have carpeted reception rooms, armchairs, dressing tables and showers. The 16ft high restaurant had the appearance of a huge hotel dining room, sleeping compartments were panelled with polished wood, dark for men light for women. East Europeans, however, who were considered by the Nazis to be subhuman, were to be crammed 480 to a carriage served by only a tiny cafeteria.

The railway was supposed to be built when the war was over and the whole of Europe under Nazi domination but as it dragged on Hitler ordered the trains to be equipped with anti-aircraft guns and redesigned so they could carry heavy war material.

The 100 officials and 30 engineers involved in the project went on working even though they knew what Hitler refused to admit, that the war was lost and the trains would never be built. As long as they worked on the project, they were exempt from call-up into the Wehrmacht. For many, the project probably saved their lives.

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Antisemitic leanings in Polish organization

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 22

Nationalists flourish under new regime

Under the benevolent gaze of Poland's Military Council, one of the few surviving political groupings, the Grunwald organization, is emerging from the shadows.

The group is dedicated to reviving the nationalist emotions in Polish youth but it has also a sinister side. Even now, the Grunwald rhetoric echoes with references to "cosmopolitanism" and "Jewish influence" on Poland's affairs.

Why should the Grunwald Group be protected by the Polish Government? Why does the Military Council ban or suspend organizations as diverse as Solidarity the free trade union organization, the Catholic Pax faction, the nationalist KPN and the independent student union NZW?

Even the official trade union movement is restricted yet Grunwald, which even its friends admit has antisemitic leanings, is actively planning a book publishing venture and the establishment of a "library" for the conscious Polish youth.

Other antisemitic voices have been heard since the introduction of martial law five weeks ago. A Szczecin newspaper has published a particularly virulent anti-Jewish article and the official inuendo is unmistakable when reference is made to the "Polishness" of Solidarity advisers.

The answer seems to be embedded in the current factional struggles in the Communist Party (still called the United Workers Party); struggles that involve not just feuding between reformers and hard-line liberals but also between groups that have radically different views about the future of the nation.

Grunwald's immunity stems from two causes. First, it is an instrument of one

faction that wants to foster a strong nationalist revival, harness those forces that once supported the KPN group (the Confederation for independent Poland) and direct them into a safe pro-soviet corner.

Second, the Military Council cannot rely on the party, caught in the middle of a purge, to mobilize support for its policies. The Central Committee has yet to meet after five weeks of martial law and the grass roots are demoralized by corruptors having either resigned (hundreds of thousands over the past year), been expelled (2,500 in the past three weeks) or simply decided to lay low.

The party is drained of vitality and devoid of purpose. It needs time to recover, lick and heal its wounds. But the Military Council has little time available and now seems to be looking to the Grunwald Group, not as a substitute for the party but as moulder of emotions. The Military Council claims its aim is national salvation. So does Grunwald.

The distinguishing feature of martial law has been the need to seek out scapegoats, real and imagined enemies. Show trials are a daily occurrence, driving home the message like an advertising slogan. No impurity, no corruption, no dissent, no labour unrest, no criticism of the Warsaw Pact.

Grunwald fits the bill well. It always had more enemies than members, but now Mr Bohdan Poreba, the chairman of Grunwald, believes that his time has come. "So far, the time of the military law, we have not been given the chance to speak openly. Now we will get that opportunity."

He admits, to friends in the Politburo. "There are some who like us, others who don't. Those who don't have

been badly informed. Now we have to prove that Grunwald is a useful, pure organization."

The group, during the 16 months of Solidarity's Poland, was always regarded as a relatively unimportant fringe group, its antisemitism a losing cause (there are only a few thousand Polish Jews left).

Mr Poreba estimates membership now at 250,000. This is almost certainly an exaggeration and other figures around 100,000 have been mentioned by Grunwald officials. Even so, that is a substantial number and now Grunwald has the only non-party-aligned platform in the country Mr Poreba's plans for expansion could well be realized.

Grunwald believes that Polish youth has been dangerously misled by Solidarity, that the country was heading for disaster before the imposition of martial law. Poland, says Mr Poreba, has been divided so many times, invaded and sliced up by the great powers, that inevitably nationalism took on a romantic rather than realistic form.

"As a nation the Poles are great," he said, paraphrasing a Polish poet, "but as a society they are inadequate," the result has been manipulation of the Polish national spirit by "certain forces".

These forces were active in KOR, the Committee for Workers Self-defence which advised Solidarity. The forces were active, too, in the postwar Stalinist era and have to be controlled.

Grunwald first made an impact in 1958 then, after a long period of inactivity, in 1981, securing its official registration soon afterwards; in vivid contrast to Solidarity that faced months of strike threats and industrial action before being officially recognised.

Speaking of Grunwald last

year, Mr Stefan Olszowski, still a powerful force in the Politburo, said: "It is sure to be registered. It defends the persecuted. It has valuable attributes."

Antisemitism is totally alien to us," Mr Poreba said. "But at the same time it is clear that Jews were far more active in the security services after the war than was warranted by their proportional presence in the population."

That is the thrust of Grunwald's creed: Poland, in order to understand fully its nationalism, has to know what happened during the Stalinist years. Several Poles of Jewish origin were then indeed in the security services and took part in the postwar purges.

"They and they are still active, or their children believe they can take advantage of every crisis and push towards destroying the true Poland." That is the key to Grunwald's code, the system is under constant threat from a continuum stretching from the security service interrogators of the 1950s to Solidarity activists in the 1980s.

These are potentially dangerous and certainly unpleasant sentiments. But they serve the needs of the moment; martial law only makes sense if the system is under threat. Grunwald argues that the nature of the "threat". Therefore, Grunwald is allowed to function.

Mr Poreba says, is pro-worker, pro-Soviet but above all pro-Pole.

The question is not so much: Should Grunwald represent Polish nationalism? As Dr Olszowski, Poland's Minister of the Interior, said: "Grunwald? With its special platform it may attract more support. The evidence, though, is that Polish nationalism is, if anything, inclined to be anti-Russian rather than antisemitic."

Chemical ban urged by Pravda

Moscow, Jan 22 — The United States is strengthening its arsenal of chemical weapons, Pravda said today, and called for a ban on their production and use.

The newspaper blamed Washington for the breakdown of talks with the Soviet Union in 1980 on limiting chemical weapons. It said America was preparing to spend billions of dollars on developing new types of weapons.

American leaders have accused the Soviet Union of building up its chemical arsenal and last year Mr Caspar Weinberger, Defence Secretary, said that Washington would have to restore the balance between the two powers in this field.

Evidence that Soviet-made chemical weapons have been used in Afghanistan against insurgents, and by Vietnamese forces in Cambodia, has also been claimed by the Americans.

Pravda said these charges were false and designed to soften opposition to Washington's chemical weapons programme, and to "play the political and psychological groundwork for rehabilitating and, possibly, subsequently using these weapons."

"The interests of all nations, including the Americans, insistently demand the red light to the arms race in yet another very dangerous direction. The chemical means of mass destruction must be banned," it said.

Warsaw crisis played down by UN leader

By Our Foreign Staff

Señor Javier Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, is appearing seeking to play down the two-day visit to the Polish city of Katowice, Dr Leopold Unger, head of the Austrian section of the Caritas relief organization, said that priests were not restricted in their relief work.

The International Red Cross in Geneva has said that it needs more than \$10m (about £5m) worth of further emergency aid for Poland during the next four months. According to the organization a total of about \$8.5m worth of help has been offered by 32 national Red Cross societies.

In Vienna, a senior Catholic official said that there was no evidence of

torture in Polish internment camps and that all food packages seemed to be reaching their destination. After a two-day visit to the Polish city of Katowice, Dr Leopold Unger, head of the Austrian section of the Caritas relief organization, said that priests were not restricted in their relief work.

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Russians eating less food

Moscow, Jan 22 — Food consumption continued to shrink in the Soviet Union in 1980, sometimes to a worrying extent, according to figures in *The Statistics Yearbook of Socialist Countries* just released here.

The figures lend substance to the strictures President Leonid Brezhnev, who has publicly deplored the fact that after 65 years of socialist rule the Soviet Union has still not solved its food production problem; a failing that could not be blamed on the weather alone.

Noting that the shortage of food had political implications, Mr Brezhnev promised that food would be a central issue during the present decade.

According to the yearbook, in 1980 Soviet citizens on average ate 2.2 lbs less meat per capita than in the previous year, consumption falling from 127.8 lbs to 125.6 lbs. Each person's average yearly intake of dairy produce was down by 11 lbs — from 703.2 lbs to 692.2 lbs of milk, butter and cheese.

Fruit and vegetable consumption was also down from 216 lbs to 205 lbs, and even consumption of potatoes, one of the national staples, dropped from 253 lbs to 246.9 lbs between 1979 and 1980.

The only food items whose consumption marginally increased were eggs and fish. Soviet citizens ate 238 eggs each, on average in 1980,

Beagle treaty renounced

Buenos Aires — Argentina yesterday renounced a treaty with Chile which committed both sides to settle peacefully a dispute over ownership of the islands of Picton, Lennox and Mueve and their potentially oil rich offshore waters at the southern tip of the Americas.

But the Argentine Government emphasized that it wanted papal mediation to continue in the dispute which concerns the border along the Beagle Channel, and said it was willing to draw up a new agreement with Chile for solving disputes.

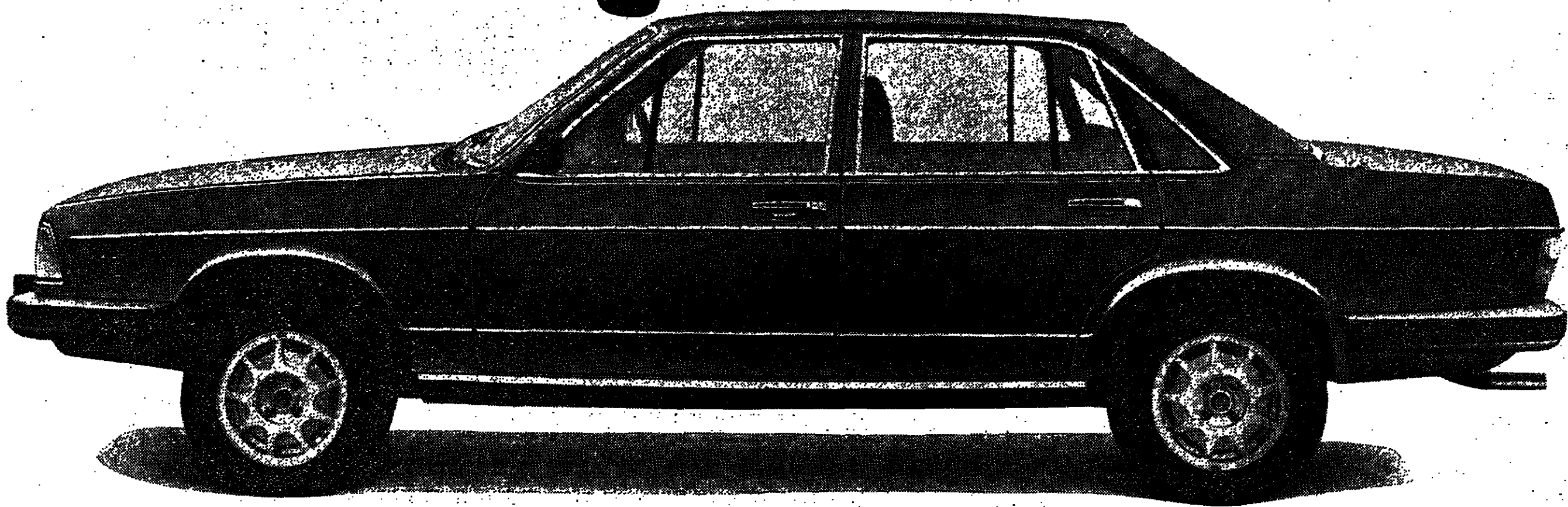
Jesuit's second jail term

Vienna — Father Frantisek Lizna, a Czechoslovak Jesuit priest serving 20 months in prison, has been sentenced to a further seven months, emigre sources said. He was found guilty in Prague on Thursday of damaging the interests of the republic abroad by giving two West German priests a letter to his sister, who lives in Britain. It contained six issues of a forbidden religious magazine.

Pope in Africa

Rome — The Pope will visit Nigeria, Benin, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea from February 12 to 19, the Vatican announced. At his request his tour of West Africa is being brought forward three days. — Reuters.

If not, why not?



	Retail Price	Max. Speed mph	Acceleration 0-60mph	Overall mpg	Boot Capacity (cu. ft.)	Power Steering
Audi 100 CL	£7,192	110	11.7	26	22.7	Standard
Ford Granada 2.3L	£8,000	104	11.2	21	14.3	Standard
Rover 2300	£7,450	110	12.1	23	12.3/44*	£171
Talbot Tagora 2.2 GL	£7,296	110	12.3	25	15.1	£249

*Higher figures - with rear seat folded forward. Information Source: 'What Car?' magazine. Retail prices as quoted by manufacturers for manual models include Car Tax and VAT at the current rate. Correct at 1st October 1981.

A glance at the table above may prompt you to ask why all those Ford, Rover and Talbot drivers are driving Fords, Rovers and Talbots.

It can't be price.

The Audi 100 CL undercuts the renowned Ford Granada 2.3 L, for example, by some £800.

Is it performance, then?

The Audi is equal first on top speed, and second only to the Granada (and only by 1/2 sec.) in terms of acceleration.

Perhaps people feel that its high performance means high fuel consumption. Yet according to 'What Car?', none of its rivals equals the Audi's economy.

And even those rare few who buy a car

The Audi also has power steering as standard, unlike two of its competitors.

And when to these bald statistics, one adds the fact that all Audis are renowned for their low running costs, reliability and durability (backed by a six-year warranty against rusting through from the inside), one begins to wonder why everyone is not driving one.

If you're currently undecided between the four fine cars we've been talking about, why not book a test drive in the 100 CL with your Audi dealer?

It's probably all you need to help you make your mind up.

Audi The Audi 100 CL

OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE AUDI 100 CL ARE: CONSTANT 56 MPH - 35.8 MPG (7.9 LITRES/100 KM); CONSTANT 75 MPH - 27.4 MPG (10.3 LITRES/100 KM); URBAN CYCLE - 20.6 MPG (13.7 LITRES/100 KM). ALLOY WHEELS SHOWN ARE AN OPTIONAL EXTRA. FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: AUDI MARKETING DEPARTMENT, VAG (UNITED KINGDOM) LTD, YEOMANS DRIVE, BLAKELANDS, MILTON KEYNES MK14 5AN; FLEET, NATO, DIPLOMATIC AND PERSONAL EXPORT ENQUIRIES: 95 BAKER STREET, LONDON W1L TEL: 01-486 8411.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Malaysians buy tanks from UK

Malaysia has signed a contract to buy British-made armoured personnel carriers worth £20m. The first batch of 100 carriers is expected to be delivered by the end of the year.

Malaysia's Defence Minister, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabhan, said the contract was a significant step in the country's efforts to modernise its armed forces. The carriers will be used for a variety of roles, including transport and combat.

Things pick up

The economy is showing signs of recovery, with a rise in consumer spending and a decline in unemployment. The government has introduced measures to stimulate growth, including tax cuts and increased public spending.

gle treaty unced

The treaty has been signed by the relevant parties, marking a significant milestone in the negotiations. It is expected to be ratified by the end of the year.

It's second term

The incumbent has been re-elected for a second term, continuing their policies and leadership. The election was closely contested, but the incumbent emerged victorious.

in Africa

The situation in Africa remains volatile, with ongoing conflicts and political instability. The international community is working to mediate peace and provide humanitarian aid.

What the Polish crisis revealed in Reagan's divided camp

by Henry Kissinger

Dr Kissinger, Secretary of State from 1973 to 1977, is the author of *The White House Years* and is Professor of International Relations at Georgetown University in Washington.

Washington
A year ago, it was being said that it was dangerous to isolate one topic as the sole object of negotiation, linkage was the watchword. Arms control, in that concept had to follow a military build up and proceed on a broad front. High-level meetings were to reflect careful preparation and reward restrained Soviet conduct. All these premises are being cast overboard as the negotiations at the highest levels continue while the vestiges of freedom in Poland are being snuffed out.

Every administration learns from experience, of course, but drastic reversals, especially midway in a crisis, run the risk of appearing panicky, of undermining credibility abroad and demoralizing well-wishers at home.

Moreover, many of the original Reagan arguments had merit. To be sure, it is easy to disparage linkage — to demonstrate that nothing will ever happen if everything is linked to everything else. But the art of policy-making is to have a sense of nuance. If the Soviets can insulate particular areas of negotiation — such as arms control — from their international conduct, they are being handed a device or problem of their own. They are absolving themselves of their aggressions. Especially those who believe in the importance of East-West talks should be concerned that diplomacy not become a form of psychological warfare, that talks are serious and obligations reciprocal. Detente is not appeasement.

A policy of coexistence must be defended against intransigence. I believe it would have ultimately served the cause of negotiations far better had the United States, early in the Polish crisis, declared a moratorium on high-level contacts with the Soviet Union until martial law was lifted in Poland. The Solidarity leaders were released and the military rulers began some form of discourse with the Church and the union.

US East-West diplomacy has been confrontation in periods of relative calm and apparently eager to negotiate when challenged. A reversal of these attitudes would serve the prospects of peace better.

The causes of the current state of affairs go back many years. The Reagan team inherited a record of shifts made without adequate consultation with allies and of episodic upheavals in U.S. leadership and policies. These go far to explain why Europe no longer rushes to follow America's lead. But whatever the ultimate cause, the administration should use the occasion of the crisis in Poland to learn, to review its procedures and to redefine purposes.

With respect to the Atlantic alliance, the following tasks seem to me of the highest priority.

The root problem of relations with the allies, which the Polish crisis has so brutally exposed, is not procedural but structural — not that the United States does not consult enough but that it is uncertain of the purpose of Atlantic consultation. Today the Atlantic alliance lacks a security doctrine that takes realistic account of the growing nuclear stockpiles in both the East and West and the new reaches of Soviet conventional power.

In the past, alliances represented a pooling of strength; in contrast NATO has far too long operated as if it were a unilateral American nuclear guarantee. And it continues to function in this way although the spectre of the casualties of nuclear war has upset all previous verities about war. Historically, surrender was considered worse than resistance. For many, the cataclysmic consequences of nuclear war have reversed that motivation. To them, nothing seems worse than a nuclear holocaust.

The result is a combination of neutralism and pacifism. America is thought to have no choice except to defend Europe; Europe believes it risks nothing by political dissociation from the United States, lethargy on defence, and simultaneous resistance to US measures such as the installation of missiles that represent in fact the logical consequences of European nuclear doctrine. Sooner or later this will lead to catastrophe.

If we are serious about avoiding nuclear war and do not wish to yield to the ruthless, the alliance must build up its conventional forces. There is no choice. But a serious programme, to that effect is lacking on both sides of the Atlantic.

Poland represents a fundamental challenge to East-West relations not only because of the brutal violation of the Helsinki accords. It does so primarily because of what it tells us about the Soviet perception of security. It is one thing for the Soviet Union to seek to be secure against a hostile military presence in surrounding countries; it is quite another to equate security with a cordon of vassal states subject to an ultimate Soviet right to impose a totalitarian government on populations that overwhelmingly reject it.

The United States can be forthcoming on Soviet strategic concerns; it must resist Moscow's claim to a constant right of intervention. Especially inadmissible is the proposition that the Red Army is the guarantor of the reversibility of history, the enforcer of the rule that what is communist is eternal and what is non-communist is fair game for undermining, or worse.

Whether to negotiate with adversaries has unfortunately become a domestic issue and a source of friction in the alliance. This weakens America in four ways: in relatively calm periods, it allows the Soviets to present themselves as the apostles of peace; when the United States finally goes to the conference table, it looks like the result of allied and Soviet pressure rather than US initiative to establish its bona fides. America is then tempted

tons of food to the Soviet Union. But what will happen when all plantings and America's entire agricultural economy become permanently geared to this level of Soviet imports? Who then has the stronger negotiating position?

Similarly, western banks have been profligate in extending credit to Poland and other East block countries — and free of considerations of state policy in doing so. The result is that they will be exposed if there is any let-up in the breakneck pace of private lending to the East.

In 1976, the United States Government recommended to a ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development an urgent study to examine the implications and risks of East-West trade and credits — and the need for greater western coordination regarding them. The effort has since languished. As a result, there are no agreed political criteria today for the management of East-West trade.

The industrial nations compete fiercely to fulfill Lenin's dictum that the capitalists would in time fight over the privilege of selling the rope they would be hanged with. There is an urgent need to establish ground rules to guide East-West trade and finance.

In setting up a National Security Council group to study the White House, Judge Clark will want to review how America came to waste crucial weeks on essentially rhetorical exercises; determine which options were put forward primarily to stall for time, and above all expose the strategic assumptions that underlay the conflicting theories and proposals for presidential attention. He will want to make sure that, in the future, what reaches the Oval Office are the real choices.

But he must go beyond that. He must ensure that the administration's foreign policy philosophy is clarified. For better or worse, a serious foreign policy requires a comprehensive central concept; without it, pronouncements are exercises in rhetoric, and actions are driven by short-term tactical considerations without coherence or sense of direction. The policy-making process must be organized by efficient procedures. But, more importantly it must be organized by a basic strategy.

Events have conspired in recent years to erode the foreign policy consensus in America and to create fault lines of opinion that cut across all strategic questions. The administration seems to me to be divided between a new isolationism and traditional Atlanticism; between those who regard as inevitable an apocalyptic showdown with the Soviet Union, and those who think that managing the competition will remain a permanent feature of US foreign policy — with a gradual erosion of the Soviet system but no clear-cut terminal point; between those who regard trade, technology and finance as matters of private concern, subject only to pure market considerations, and those who see economic relationships, particularly with the communist world, as so centrally important to the future of both the West and the East as to be an inherent part of the United States' public policy.

The strains generated by the competition between these contending points of view within the administration have been all too evident in the weeks following the repression in Poland. They will tug at policy in the months to come as well, until the administration moves to resolve them and in the process designs a longer-term, fully rounded concept of US strategy, resources and broader objectives in the world.

Until these issues are settled, it will be impossible even for the wisest of leaders to make more than momentary sense from the range of options presented to him by his staff each day for decision.

If we master these issues and in the process design a coherent policy, the Polish crisis will in the end generate a lasting benefit. If we fail, we shall remember these months not only with shame but as a decisive turning point in western history.

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Concluded



into opening positions that look like (and sometimes are) complete reversals, casting doubt on its resolve; and once it is engaged in talks, these negotiating positions turn into ends in themselves, regardless of content.

US rhetoric and strategy must be brought into balance. The need is for a programme that avoids the twin dangers of abandoning the peace issue to adversaries without turning negotiation into a form of self-blackmail. In the long run, America serves the cause of peace best by precision, strict insistence on reciprocity and a view of the world respectful of legitimate Soviet concerns.

A decade or so ago, when East-West trade, technology transfer and financial relations began to develop, many believed that economic ties could become an instrument among others — for moderating Soviet conduct. In a crisis, it was thought, the fear of losing markets or access to raw materials, western technical innovations or bank credits would produce Soviet caution. But this assumption presupposed a western willingness to use its economic strength in the service of an overall strategy. That clearly has not happened.

On the contrary, so many western nations have let themselves become dependent on Soviet trade that a trade cut-off is more likely to turn into a Soviet weapon against the West. American farmers this year take satisfaction in the sale of 23 million



The Final Solution in action: a small frightened boy is forced to march under German guns with other Jews from the Warsaw ghetto to an unknown fate in 1943. This is regarded as one of the most telling photographs of the Second World War

The day the Nazis settled for mass murder

Martin Gilbert reconstructs a meeting of senior civil servants in Germany 40 years ago: they had gathered to discuss the European Jewish question...

Forty years ago this week occurred one of the most bizarre and ultimately evil events of the Second World War. It took place in a villa on the shore of a quiet lake, the Wannsee, in a smart suburb of Berlin. Those who gathered there — in a building that before the war had been the international headquarters of Interpol — were for the most part bureaucrats. They came from each of the main ministries of the Reich: 15 senior civil servants representing, among others, the Justice Ministry, the Foreign Office, the Ministry for the Eastern Territories, the office for the Four-Year Plan, and Hitler's Chancellery itself.

The meeting should have taken place two weeks before Christmas. But in the upheavals after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, it had been postponed. Now there was to be no more delay. The convenor of the meeting, SS Obergruppenführer Reinhard Heydrich, Chief of the Security Police, opened the proceedings with the announcement that he had been appointed "plenipotentiary" for the preparation of what he referred to as the "Final solution of the European Jewish question". The meeting had been called to ensure that all agencies concerned in this final solution would work together to follow the same policy.

Previously, Heydrich explained, the "solution" had been seen in emigration. Later this had changed to expulsion. Now these actions were to be regarded "only as provisional options". New experience was being gathered, he said, which would be of major significance for that final solution.

Although he did not say so, Heydrich had received a report of that new experience

from his dutiful subordinate, Adolf Eichmann, who early in December had visited a remote wood in German-occupied Poland where Jews, forced into an enclosed truck, were then driven off towards a clearing and gassed by the truck's exhaust system. By the time the clearing was reached, only corpses remained.

Eichmann had witnessed one such gassing. It had turned his stomach, and he declined an offer to see a second. But of the effectiveness of the method he was left in no doubt. Berlin now had its new "experience" on which to build — and to destroy.

The civil servants listened as Heydrich explained to them the scale of the problem. Using statistics prepared by Eichmann, Heydrich read out the number of Jews who would be "affected" by the final solution. In Germany and Austria, a total of 131,800 Jews remained, despite the emigration of more than half German Jewry before 1939 (many thousands of them to Britain). The Lithuanian figure was a low 34,000, as more than 200,000 Lithuanian Jews had already been murdered in their towns and villages the previous summer by the notorious *Einsatzgruppen* killing squads which had followed the German army in its advance into Russia.

Some figures depended on the willingness of satellite governments to deport Jews to Germany. Thus the 48,000 Bulgarian Jews on the list were saved by the courage of the Bulgarian King and parliament in openly refusing to allow them to be deported. That refusal had been encouraged by the godfather of the King's children, a Catholic diplomat,

Cardinal Roncalli — later Pope John XXIII.

The 5,600 Jews of Denmark were saved when the Danish King and people smuggled them — on the very eve of their intended deportation — in small boats across the sea to neutral Sweden.

As envisaged at Wannsee, the Final Solution was not to be confined to countries inside the Nazi sphere. Even neutral countries, and countries as yet unconquered, were on Eichmann's meticulous list, among them the 4,000 Jews of de Valera's neutral Irish Republic. And there was the ominous line: "England — 330,000".

In his survey, Heydrich warned against the danger of the survival of the strongest among the Jews. If allowed to remain, these individuals would become "the germ cell of a new Jewish renewal". They must therefore be "appropriately dealt with".

Even in translation, the euphemisms and understatement have a sinister chill about them. The danger, as Heydrich saw it, lay in local reluctance to let the Nazis in their task. Hungary was seen as an obstacle, and indeed for more than two years the Hungarian authorities (headed by the Regent, Admiral Horthy) refused to allow deportations until a German military occupation forced them to comply.

The same obstacles occurred in Italy, where Mussolini not only refused deportation but gave refuge to Jews fleeing from more threatened lands. But within a few days of Mussolini's overthrow in October 1943, the deportations began under direct German supervision.

Heydrich saw the tragic reality. There, he told the meeting, "the rounding up of Jews for

evacuation can in all probability place without great difficulties" whether in the occupied or Vichy zones. In the event, nearly 1,000 Jews were rounded up and deported every week, for more than 80 consecutive weeks, with the support of the local French police. But even this rate of deportation fell far below the Wannsee target because thousands of Jews were hidden by their fellow Frenchmen or given refuge in convents and monasteries.

As it drew to its close, the discussion at Wannsee moved on from Jews to half-Jews. For those with only one Jewish parent, a different solution was envisaged: sterilization. This was to encompass even those with one Jewish grandparent if the individual concerned showed an "especially unfavourable appearance in racial terms". Such a person would be marked out for sterilization "on the strength of his exterior alone".

One of the officials present pointed out, with grim humour, that extensive use could be made of sterilization since the half-Jews, "when confronted with the choice of being evacuated or sterilized, would prefer to submit to sterilization".

Those evacuation plans were now to be put into effect, and, over a two-year period, several million Jews were to be deported and then gassed on arrival at one of the six death camps set up especially for the purpose in German-occupied Poland.

The lakeside meeting was at an end; the participants broke up for drinks before returning to Berlin and to their desks. In this way, the destruction of European Jewry was begun.

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Geoffrey Smith

How the Tories could swing it their way

Will the next election be a referendum on unemployment? If it is, the Conservatives are bound to do badly. Unemployment is a difficult issue for any Conservative Government, and particularly for one whose rhetoric has, sometimes given the impression that it regards an increase in joblessness as a necessary economic discipline. But will the election really be as simple as that? Unemployment will certainly be a major factor. It is the principal point of public anxiety today: next Thursday's announcement is expected to reveal that the number of people out of work has reached the dreaded figure of three million. A poll conducted by Opinion Research, and broadcast on *Weekend World* last Sunday, indicated that reducing unemployment would be by far the best way of attracting wavering voters back into the Tory fold.

All recent experience suggests, however, that no British general election is determined by a single issue. People may think on each occasion that it will be this time. Individual voters may imagine well in advance of the event that they can pick out the one item that will sway their judgment. But when it comes to the point they will be influenced by an amalgam of developments and impressions.

To win the next election the Conservatives will not have to secure a sharp reduction in the present level of unemployment. It will be enough if the trend of unemployment is downwards — provided that other factors are favourable. What are those other factors?

The most critical is that there should be a general sense that the economy is reviving. This is not something that can easily be reflected in an opinion poll on voting intentions. It is not sufficiently specific to put in the form of a question. Nor can it be measured by one economic indicator alone.

The one that will come nearest to doing so, though, is not unemployment or inflation, but real purchasing power in the run-up to an election.

The only way that the Conservatives can possibly be reconciled to the hardship of the past three years, with a Government that has specialized in tough talk in the depths of a recession, is for the belief to dawn that there may after all be something to show for the misery. Mrs Thatcher has always presented her strategy as an unpleasant but necessary experience that is required to put to British economy in a condition to compete effectively, and thereby to provide secure jobs, in a harsh world. Only if there seems to be some evidence that his claim is coming true will the Conservatives have any ammunition with which to fight the election.

But if they do have this ammunition, the precise level of unemployment will matter less in strictly electoral terms than may appear likely today. Even with three million out of work only a relatively small minority of families are themselves suffering from unemployment. It arouses such widespread feeling now partly from a proper sense of social sympathy, but also because to many of those still employed it symbolizes the general hardship of today and the fear of tomorrow. How many of those in work

this year fear that they will not be next year?

But things would begin to look rather different once the level of unemployment had started to fall and most people were able to buy more with the money in their pockets. For those in work unemployment would then be a claim on their social conscience rather than a nagging cause of personal anxiety. It will not be necessary therefore for an economic improvement to have a dramatic effect on the unemployment figures before the Conservatives could hope to secure the electoral benefit. What will be critical for them is that there should be a general impression that happy days are on the way.

So far as the Labour Party is concerned all that any good Conservative can do is to pray that it may maintain its form. Conservatives cannot induce Labour to behave in such a way as to appear unacceptable as a governing party: they can simply make the most of the presents that Labour offers. Had Mr. Tony Benn been elected deputy leader, that would have made the point for the Conservatives more effectively than anything they could say. But as it is, despite the promises that peace has broken out in the party, Labour seems likely to present a sufficiently inviting target.

It will not, however, be the only alternative to another term of Tory rule. Indeed, the Conservatives face the paradox that the less acceptable Labour seems, the more support will flow to the Social Democrats and the more credible the alliance will appear. It was understandable, therefore, that the new chairman of the Conservative Party, Mr. Cecil Parkinson, should have declared on Wednesday that it would be premature to write off the Labour Party: the Conservatives need it to be strong enough to act as a convincing bogey.

It will not be so easy to create a bogey out of the SDP. Essentially the Conservatives have a choice, between portraying it as a second Labour Party, clad in more attractive clothes but still just as much of a threat, or as a baggy of a party without any clear focus or identity. Up to now most Conservatives have seemed to prefer the first course, but the trouble is that Mr. Jenkins and his senior colleagues do not really look very threatening. It is also very difficult to represent them as stalking horses of Marxism when they broke away from Labour in protest against its leftward drift.

Mr. Parkinson was more subtle. He attacked the SDP on two grounds: that they might draw off sufficient votes to let in a left-wing Labour government, and that they were not credible as politicians: "We will be attacking their 'magic circle' economics. It's all going to be done by mirrors or magic".

This is the line that I would expect to see developed between now and the election. If unemployment starts to fall, if other economic signals turn to green, if Labour continues to present a dispiriting face, the outcome is likely to depend upon how successful the Conservatives are in presenting the SDP as the fuzzy party — very nice, maybe, but not a serious proposition to run the country. That may seem a lot of ifs, but then there always are at every election.

Asa Briggs at full steam

Had it not been for the steam engine, Karl Marx would never have got off the ground, and Mr. Tony Benn would probably have remained an obscure and harmless aristocrat.

James Watt has a lot to answer for. His improvement of Newcomen's crude Cornish mine pumping engine into the machine that powered the Industrial Revolution created a social change unparalleled by any other technology, before or since, with the possible exception of the wheel. Steam, which triggers such a romantic response in an army of weekend enthusiasts, now enjoys the benefit of scrutiny by one of our foremost social historians, Asa Briggs.

With *The Power of Steam*, a lavishly illustrated cultural history of the first great sale of industrial energy, Lord Briggs enters an area of publishing already at bursting pressure from enough remastered titles to fuel a Lancashire boiler. His purpose, however, is not to be in the rosy setting of an earlier age of Atlantic liners and the Great Western Railway, but to define the social and cultural phenomenon that took us from water wheels to Windscale.

"I am not a steam enthusiast; rather I try to understand why there is such a thing as steam enthusiasm," he told me. "I am just as interested in the steam en-



The great engineer George Stephenson in a wicker chair, picture of about 1880

courtesy of steam engines that had much to do with binding them together and make them aware of their selves.

"Steam was the last technology that most people felt they could understand," Lord Briggs told me. "Far fewer people understood, or were fascinated by, electricity, and as for nuclear energy it is quite incomprehensible to most people, including many who work in it."

Although Lord Briggs is no train-spotter, he has vivid memories of a steam-clouded childhood in Keighley, Yorkshire, where he lived five minutes from the station and from the vast textile engineering works of Prince Smith, an enormous industrial enterprise built entirely on the power of steam.

Lord Briggs, now aged 60, himself generates as much energy as three steam turbines. Half an hour before his wedding in 1955, it is said, from the ante-room in which the bridegroom was supposed to be adjusting his dress came the tap of a typewriter finishing a book review for the *New Statesman*.

He left Sussex University in 1976, after 10 years as the vice-chancellor, in which he helped to make the new fashionable universities in Britain. "People imagine that in those days we were only interested in a vague kind of

radicalism at Sussex. But I have always been very keen on technological education, and I am proud to have been responsible for establishing a school of applied sciences at Sussex."

His scope for innovation is rather less in the past he has held since 1976 — Provost of Worcester College, Oxford — although he is clearly pleased that the college now numbers two engineers among its Fellows.

After the administrative burden of running a trendy university, the relative tranquillity of Worcester now gives him much time to write. He will shortly produce a one-volume version of his gargantuan, one million word, four-volume *History of Broadcasting*, which itself will in time spawn a fifth tome.

"I have become more interested in society in culture, than in society and economics. I am interested in the cultural expression of the society, and in getting at the variety of local experience. Historians should never take the unity of England for granted; they should explain why England is integrated." Such an approach is only to be expected from a high-pressure, triple-expansion, steam-driven Yorkshireman.

Alan Hamilton
The Power of Steam by Asa Briggs is published on Monday by Michael Joseph at £10.50.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

DR KISSINGER'S JOLT

Dr. Henry Kissinger, in articles in the *New York Times* and *The Times*, has been making howling noises about the Western response to Poland. They repay careful reading. Dr. Kissinger, despite the caricature of him which survives from the Nixon-Kissinger days, is not a conventional hawk and what he is advocating is not a reflex headline response to the Polish crisis. He and Richard Nixon invented détente with the Soviet Union and with China but they also invented linkage, the insistence that goodwill was not enough. They insisted that progress on trade would depend on progress on arms control, that the minutiae of diplomacy had to be timed to reciprocal concessions. Détente, in short, was not the appeasement that the extreme right wing in President Reagan's party says it was.

There is piquancy, therefore, in seeing Dr. Kissinger hailed as a spokesman for the hawks. He certainly makes some very severe criticisms of the lack of direction in the Western response. It is hard to reconcile the assertion that the Soviet Union is to blame for Poland's plight with the continued presence of the United States in the Madrid Conference on the very Helsinki arrangements that are being violated in Poland. Mr. Haig seems to have heard for his cutting this point. But he does not say how far he would go to cut off the Soviet Union itself by economic sanctions and he does not address the question of how a graduated economic response from the West might be organized and administered.

It is questionable whether a total moratorium in East-West relations would have enforced a return to the days of reform in Poland. That at any rate appears to be the view of the Polish hierarchy to which the West should pay due heed in view of the church's well-founded claim to be the true representative of the Polish

nation. Furthermore, an all-out response would have left nothing in reserve in the event of direct Soviet aggression. If a graduated response is right, however, it must be one which is universally agreed and convincingly applied by the allies. The aims are clear enough. They should include the release of the many thousands detained under martial law of whom one is the Solidarity leader, Lech Walesa; the resumption of the dialogue between the authorities, Solidarity and the church; and the new progress towards the kind of economic reforms which the General initially promised to implement and which alone can make Poland solvent. But the means to achieve these ends cannot be left to isolated bankers talking to each other when they consider re-scheduling the Polish debt. It is an extraordinary comment on Western planning that the aid to Poland was given by banks without any clear idea among Governments about what it was hoped to achieve and what the response would be if it was default.

Underlying these confusions is an uncertainty about the nature of the Soviet Union, its relations with its East European satellites, and the leadership of the Atlantic alliance. No tactics will serve unless they are based on clear views of these matters and of the consequences they impose for defence and diplomacy. Dr. Kissinger identifies divergences within the American administration, but they are evident in more muted form throughout Europe. There is a need for thought and for leadership. Chancellor Schmidt has been to Washington to talk to President Reagan. But the sooner the leaders meet together, with properly prepared analyses, and option papers, the better. Yesterday it was Afghanistan. Today it is Poland. The West must concert its unity. Improvisation and eloquence are not enough.

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CORPORAL PUNISHMENT FOR TEACHERS

New ideas cascade from the judicial benches these days. No sooner has the concept of contributory negligence in the criminal law been created and given the thumbs down than the concept of statistical fatalism for civil plaintiffs is launched in its stead. It seems that some judges and magistrates are taking to heart all too seriously the Home Secretary's concern about prison overcrowding. The remarks of a magistrate on the case of the Newington Green teacher allegedly assaulted by a parent in her classroom embody a novel principle of forensic reasoning which offers wide scope for development.

The problem of assaults in school has changed since the days of Mr Creakle and Mr Squeers. For teachers in the past, it was more a matter of handing it out than learning to take it, though in Mr Squeers's case the boot was not wholly on the one foot ("MET-A-FUR, a metaphor, Smeke, and when you've learnt to spell it you can take it away and polish it"). Without commenting on the facts of the present case, it is true that teachers in schools today are in general less likely to assault than they are to be assaulted. It is a real

occupational hazard, as the teachers' unions often point out.

The magistrate this week was fortunate enough to have the statistics at his fingertips. The incidence of assaults on teachers in primary schools between Clissold Park and the Balls Pond Road is, it appears, three per teacher per decade. He is reported to have added that the victim should get used to the prospect, and that it was a waste of public money to bring a case to court in such circumstances. The teacher herself may or may not have known the figures quite so precisely. But given that the broad dangers were well-known, anybody who incurred them could be said to be guilty of a sort of contributory negligence. A bench (this bench, at least) might be disposed to take a particularly serious view of this in the case of a teacher, who, as a responsible person in a position of trust, owed a duty of care.

The principle can be extended. In the past, the courts have only had to consider whether an alleged crime or tort took place or not; henceforth they should also ask themselves whether, if it did, it was above or below the statistical average for events

of that kind. If a teacher has not reached her quota, then *de minimis non curat lex*. Once she passes her quota, a case might be worth bringing, though obviously it would then be open to the assailant to plead that he or she was still below his or her personal quota. Activity in the courts would tend to be towards the end of the year as quotas became exhausted. Some system of rollover of entitlements from one year to the next, might help to reduce this effect.

The public insistently demands action on crime rates, and the advantage of the Islington principle is that it addresses itself to crime rates rather than individual crimes. But the tyranny of the average should not be allowed to go too far. According to the headmaster of the school in question, it had been free of assaults for ten years, prior to the alleged incident of last December. It is a glaring statistical anomaly. But it would be well to warn the Islington bench that this persistent failure to meet quotas does not in itself warrant any corrective action, either by way of rewards to individuals seeking to bring the school in line, or fines on their victims.

Day of the Vow

From the Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa
Sir, The article by Michael Hornsby (December 16), on the South African Day of the Vow concerning the significance of that day caused South Africans who read it deep distress.

It is historical fact that the Voortrekkers (pioneers) who risked inland in search of freedom strove to reach agreement and to live in harmony with the black nations into whose territory they moved. In fact, it was while negotiating land rights with the Zulu King Dingaan that the Trek leader Retief and his party of 70 plus 30 Coloured outriders were overwhelmed and murdered. Subsequently the Zulu impi set upon the scattered and vulnerable laagers (encampments) and killed nearly 300 as well as more than 200 Coloured servants, including many women and children.

Only then did the Voortrekkers send a party of some 470 under Commandant-General Pretorius, reinforced by British settlers and their Bantu followers, against Dingaan, whose Zulu force of 12,500 attacked the Voortrekker laager at the Battle of Blood River, but were beaten off with heavy losses.

The Voortrekkers, including the British and their followers, certainly solemnly vowed to God before the battle that: If He with His protection will be with us and deliver our enemies into our hands, we shall ever after keep this day and date as a day of thanksgiving

and a Sabbath. We shall raise Him a temple, where I shall please Him, unto His glory and to the glory of our children to share with us therein; also their children and their children's children. For the honour of His name will thereby be glorified that the renown and honour of victory shall be given unto Him.

It is not unusual to pray on such occasions. Lord Nelson did so before the Battle of Trafalgar, as did the British before the Battle of Ulundi in 1879 which turned the tide against the Zulus, leading to the subsequent destruction of the Zulu nation. It is inconceivable that anyone should denigrate Lord Nelson's noble prayer or describe the British victory at Trafalgar as a senseless massacre of the French.

Just over two years ago, the South African Prime Minister, the Hon P. W. Botha, said that the Day of the Vow was not a symbol of Afrikaner superiority or a triumph of Whites over Blacks, but the willingness of the Afrikaner to kneel before God. A year later Mr Botha said the Battle of Blood River had not been an organised racial incident as the Afrikaner and Zulu nations had been able to make peace afterwards.

If the South African Government's policy of striving for a strong, self-sufficient country in which all its peoples can share in its dynamic development and the bounty this provides is indicative of the mental frontier retreating from the laager's protective circle, then so be it.

Yours etc.,
MARIA STEYN,
South African Embassy, WC2.
January 14.

Ulster teacher training

From Mr Anthony Bailey
Sir, Canon Walsh, of St. Malachy's College, Belfast, demands (January 19) that the two main recommendations of the Chilver review body on teacher education in Northern Ireland be set aside because they will undermine the rights of Catholic schools in Ulster to have teachers fully trained in Catholic teacher-training colleges.

A number of Catholics and Protestants I have met while visiting Northern Ireland are certain that one of the chief factors perpetuating conflict there is that Ulster people are trained as little Catholics and little Protestants, proud to be on one side, looking down on the other, when what they mostly are, of course, are men and women, born on the island of Ireland, British subjects, sharing many of the same desires, needs, and conditions of life.

Surely what Northern Ireland requires is less so-called religious education, more teaching that will create a non-sectarian society. And if there is to be peace in Ulster in the years to come, government review bodies must work for schools and teachers that actively promote such an end.

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY BAILEY,
63 Royal Hill,
Greenwich, SE10.
January 19.

A new way forward with home buying

From the Director of the Low Pay Unit

Sir, Few would disagree with your call (leading article, January 19) for more help to first-time home buyers. However, that objective may be sadly frustrated if your demand for further tax concessions to owner-occupied housing were to be met.

Over the years such concessions have grown, "like Topsy" and are now substantial. Stamp duty relief, which you would like to see raised, is indeed the smallest, costing only £260m in 1980-81. But mortgage interest relief cost almost £2,000m in that year — a doubling in the revenue forgone in one year alone. This is in addition to the exemption of owner-occupied housing from the old Schedule A tax on its rental value.

Some estimates suggest this exemption now costs, in revenue forgone, about the same as mortgage relief itself. Capital gains tax exemption is more expensive, representing an estimated revenue loss of £2,400m in 1980-81.

This complex structure — some might describe it as a "shantytown" — of tax reliefs for owner-occupiers is positively harmful to those trying to become homeowners for the first time. Since the supply of housing is somewhat inflexible, especially in a recession when the construction industry suffers badly, the provision of tax subsidies serves merely to push up house prices.

The only people to gain are those who owned a house before the concessions were introduced or increased — and first-time buyers are not amongst them. While encouraging under-occupation, as people clamour up the housing ladder to take advantage of the first rung, the bottom rung of that ladder is lifted further out of reach of those at the bottom. It is not only first-time buyers who lose by the present system: the regressive effects of tax

subsidies are well documented; they also push up marginal tax rates (even for that half of the household population who do not own their homes) creating economic disincentives; and they generate distortions in investment as funds are poured into this part of the housing sector where the tax subsidies are most generous.

This is not to argue that the state should not subsidise owner-occupation, but what is needed is a more rational system of tax concessions. If the aim is to help first-time buyers the relief should be concentrated on this group. This would imply reduction in the relief against capital gains and removal of some of the housing loopholes in the capital transfer tax, which has no help at all to new homeowners.

A new form of non-transferable mortgage interest relief is needed. Each taxpayer should be entitled to relief (at the standard rate) for the first £25,000 (perhaps more) borrowed, but this allowance should not be renewable every time the taxpayer moves.

Compared with reforms of this type, further relief from stamp duty would be a better way to use it than in further concessions on stamp duty. Yours faithfully,
CHRIS POND,
Director,
Low Pay Unit,
9 Poland Street, W1,
January 19.

Incidentally, was Mr Grigg ever a Tory or the party of a Church and Queen?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STOKES,
House of Commons.
January 21.

Guildford candidature

From Mr Charles St. George
Sir, According to your report of January 14 I am apparently "sick as a parrot" at the prospect of standing down in favour of the SDP in Guildford, following the agreement reached between Liberal and SDP negotiators on the distribution of parliamentary seats in Surrey. This is not an accurate description of my feelings.

Naturally I am very disappointed at being asked to stand down, not only for myself but for the 1,000 or so Liberal members in Guildford who have given me every support and encouragement over the past two years. If it is their wish, expressed in general meeting, that I should stand down in the long-term interests of the Alliance then I will do so gladly.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES ST. GEORGE,
Guildford District Liberal Association,
Flat 1,
12 Millmead Terrace,
Guildford, Surrey.

In office
From Lady Lorna Howard
Sir, It appeals me to read in the newspapers the constant iteration of the opposition parties, especially the Society of Disgruntled Politicians (I beg their pardon the SDP — of what they each intend doing when in power.

My father, the late Stanley Baldwin always said: "A government is not in power; it is in office, but there by the will of the people".

Power is a corrupting thought.

Yours sincerely,
LORNA STANLEY HOWARD,
8 Sandwich Street, WC1,
January 18.

Official advice

From the Secretary of State for the Environment
Sir, The feature article on my department in today's *Times* (January 20) contains an allegation that a named official failed to tender proper advice to ministers on an important matter of policy.

In fairness to the individual, and indeed to me and my ministerial colleagues who will therefore be judged to have made the criticism to your reporters, there would be absolutely no foundation for the allegation.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HESELTINE,
Department of the Environment,
2 Marsham Street, SW1,
January 20.

Beating time

From Mr Alexander Schouvaloff
Sir, Your fascinating list of anniversaries (January 11) included that of Igor Stravinsky on June 5, 1882, Russian style. From 1901 the difference between the Julian and Gregorian calendars increased by one day and so Stravinsky thereafter celebrated his birthday not on June 17 but June 18. As the difference between the calendars increases by one day every century Stravinsky used to say that eventually he would be considered to have been born after his grandchildren.

Yours faithfully,
ALEXANDER SCHOUVALOFF,
59 Lyndhurst Grove, SE15,
January 12.

Roman view of Anglican orders

From the Bishop of Aberdeen

Sir, If a Catholic bishop from beyond the confines of England may comment upon a matter which is wider than the English scene, may I point out an error in your editorial (January 18) in regard to *Apostolic Curiae* and the judgment that Anglican orders were null and void.

The judgment at that time was not concerned with the rite or ordinal then in use in the ordaining of bishops (and priests) within the Anglican Communion. By then it was largely accepted that the ordinal was capable of fulfilling the intention of the (Catholic) Church when ordaining bishops. It was the defect of form in the Edwardine ordinal that was considered, and not just in itself but as expressing the mind of the reformers in respect of ordination. The nub of the argument was expressed like this in the Bull:

But if, on the contrary, the rite is changed with the manifest purpose of introducing another rite which is not accepted by the Church, and of Apostolic Curiae, which always does and by Christ's institution belongs to the nature of the sacrament, then it is evident, not only that the intention necessary for a sacrament is lacking, but even that an intention is present which is adverse to and incompatible with the sacrament.

It is not the rite that is "null and void" but Catholic orders in England. If anything should be an embarrassment to Catholics, Roman and Anglican, it is not *Apostolic Curiae* but the Edwardine ordinal, which must either be set out, and achieved, the dismemberment of the Church in England from the Ecclesia Catholica.

Personally I would feel no need to hurry or circumvent *Apostolic Curiae*, the time when the attention was focused on the legitimacy and validity of orders as stemming from and assuring apostolic succession it clarified the issues, and made a judgment wholly relevant in the context. In a narrow field of sacramental theology it will be relevant and useful for study.

We now see the heart of the matter differently, perhaps because our ecclesiology is more profound. We are concerned with ecclesial communion, rather than sacramental communion (which is basically why we want to shift the argument even today from the question of sacramental intercommunion). The validity and legitimacy of orders has more to do with ecclesial communion than with the question

whether or not the sacrament of the Mass is effected.

In the Catholic tradition the question of the papacy is not peripheral to the question, and it is surely a measure of Anglican catholicity that it is seen to be central and crucial in England today, and a cause for hope among Christians everywhere.

Yours sincerely,
MARIO CONTI,
Bishop of Aberdeen,
156 King's Gate, Aberdeen.
January 19.

From Father Deryck Hansell, SJ
Sir, It is appropriate that one so ecumenically minded as the Bishop of Norwich should have replied in your columns (January 16) to Bishop Clark, and that he should have insisted that "fundamental Christian issues are at stake", and not just courtesy between Christians, important though this is and not only on the occasion of a papal visit.

That the Pope, however, is "the essential grace flows to all Christians" is not a doctrine of the Catholic and Roman Church. The Pope's office is *Ministerial*. He has somewhat the same relation to the universal Church as the bishop has to his diocese. But Dr Wood is quite right in saying that "neither an earthly Pope nor the Virgin Mary herself can stand between Christ and His Church". No Roman Catholic would disagree.

There is still obviously much that we need to learn (and unlearn) about one another's beliefs; and this is the main reason why there can be no immediate prospect of union between Rome and the reformed churches of this land. This does not mean however that those churches should not proceed along the path of covenanting, even though it be upon principles unacceptable — for the present at any rate — to the magisterium of the Roman Church. The fact that the local hierarchy of that church has felt obliged to stress. Nevertheless the Church of England is not to be identified with the extreme Anglo-Catholic party or with its view of apostolic succession.

The whole question of the ministry of the Church is loomed increasingly, and in this context *Apostolic Curiae* can hardly be overlooked. Nor should it be.

Yours faithfully,
DERYCK HANSELL,
St Ignatius,
27 High Road, N15.
January 20.

Mixed fortunes

From Mr Brian Sewell

Sir, Professor Michael Kitson (January 20) has misinterpreted my "bizarre simile" likening the La Tour to blue marmalade: in the article in which it appeared I described Christopher Wright's reasons for rejecting "The Fortune Teller" as "inadequate", and his eye for stylistic analysis as "unreliable".

I may nevertheless have seemed to ally in my mind the picture in *The Burlington Magazine* last year points out that the technical evidence produced by John Brealey was based on the research of scientists who warned that at the present time we consider only the data on American and Dutch works to be reasonably adequate. Mr Brealey omitted that warning, and Georges de la Tour came from Lorraine.

On stylistic grounds most art historians have agreed that the La Tour in Lvov must be his earliest known painting, hazy and dated c.1615 for it. With recent cleaning the date 1634 has been revealed, knocking twenty years out of the chronology and condensing it alarmingly. In some ways this may make the stylistic discrepancies of "The Fortune Teller" easier to accept, in that La Tour in 1620 made an application for citizenship of Lorraine, was granted it, and then seems to have been absent

from the Duchy between May, 1622, and February, 1622.

If that period was spent in Holland, then nothing could be more natural for a young man, proud of his new citizenship, than to sign a picture "Luneville Lothar", as in "The Fortune Teller", and some of the technical evidence that I dispute falls into place. If it was painted in Holland in 1622, more than a decade earlier than the Lvov picture, then the differences in style may just be acceptable.

Since the picture's emergence in 1850 few art historians have accepted it without reservation, and Wright has not been alone in holding the notion that it may be a fake. The problem for me is that the intellectual arguments in its support are not strong enough to resolve doubts, and many of the scientific arguments and observations are in conflict.

I have always maintained that to be convincing the technical and stylistic comparisons must be made with the Lvov picture, which has an impeccable history and has never been doubted. As long as "The Fortune Teller" is examined only in isolation or with the Louvre and Fort Worth variants of "The Cheats", the two distinct controversies will continue — to Wright the picture may remain an outright fake, but for me it is in the limbo of uncertain attribution.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN SEWELL,
19 Eldon Road, W8.

A diary in question

From Count Nikolai Tolstoy

Sir, The Editorial Director of Penguin Books, referring (January 15) to the fake *Diary of a Farmer's Wife, 1796-1797*, speaks of "the origins of the matter", and asserts that "Penguin Books certainly do not wish to be seen to make any false claims for books that we publish".

Perhaps I will inform us whether there is any uncertainty about the fact that a relative of Mrs Preston (who forged the "Diary" in or shortly before 1937) successfully claimed a copyright fee for the book on the grounds that it was Mrs Preston's sole creation?

Much more serious, as Mr Tearn points out in his letter to you (January 15) is the silence of the BBC on the matter, and failure to publish letters pointing out the deception in *Radio Times*.

Yours faithfully,
NIKOLAI TOLSTOY,
Court Close,
Southmoor,
Abingdon,
Berkshire,
January 17.

From Mr James Evison

Sir, So, "Penguin Books certainly do not wish to be seen to make any false claims..." and have been "already shamed..." into admitting (the diary) is not authentic?

Yet the diary is classified on its back cover as "autobiography", which is why I began to browse through it. Michael Croucher in his foreword ends by describing it as "the true voice of the past... the original person is still there... the authentic voice of the farmer's wife... a record of

stand..." (my italics), which is why I bought it.

There are too many books published which should never have been published from the unscripted sage. I have inquired of Penguin Books if literature is covered by the Trade Descriptions Act. I honestly feel duped, especially as £2.75 is a little exorbitant for its pages of drivel.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES EVISON,
77 Church Hill,
Royaume,
South Yorkshire.

Desert reading

From Mr H. G. Conway

Sir, Or he might have tried Loiseau's book, *Le Cent d'Heure à Travers la Sahara*, a 1929 account of crossing by much the same route but alone and in a small Bugatti!

Yours truly,
H. G. CONWAY,
33 Sussex Square,
Elye Park, W2.
January 20.

Omphalos?

From Mr M. R. Williams

Sir, I notice in today's "University News" (January 19) that Mr L. J. Kydell, of University College London, has had conferred upon him the title of "Professor of Naval Architecture".

I have heard of genetic engineering, but surely this is taking things a little too far! I remain, yours faithfully,
M. R. WILLIAMS,
Mountfield Cottage,
Sevenoaks Weald,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.
January 19.

Saturday Review

Lewis Carroll, mathematician, fantasist, photographer, born 150 years ago, loved a good riddle. But as a warm and open man, he would have been unlikely to relish the mystery that now surrounds his diaries. What happened to the missing volumes? More sinisterly, whose hand wielded the razor that cut pages from those that survive? And how was it all concerned with the real Alice?

Who censored Lewis Carroll?

by Morton N. Cohen

Wednesday, January 27, marks Lewis Carroll's 150th birthday. Ceremonies, festivals, exhibitions, and even a pilgrimage or two to Oxford, where Carroll lived, and Guildford, where he died, will commemorate the sesquicentenary of the man who, in a stroke of genius or in a moment of absence of mind, created *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Over the years, the elusive figure of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, the man behind the pseudonym, has provoked enormous curiosity, and no better occasion will arise in our time to dispel some of the mysteries surrounding him.

The keys to what we seek to know lie at hand in Carroll's letters and in his diaries. Many of the letters are now in print, but the diaries are still a source of mystery, for only nine of thirteen volumes survive, and even they have been violated. Still, a careful examination of them tells us much and we can infer a good deal more.

Since 1970, biographers and other literary historians have been able to examine the manuscript diaries of Lewis Carroll in the British Library. The surviving volumes span 39 of Carroll's 66 years. Much of the contents of these nine notebooks crammed with writing appeared in print in the early 1950s, but the unpublished portions promised revelations. Indeed, just the fact that only nine volumes survived, however extensive, had been selected for publication suggested that something had been withheld. It is no wonder that people engaged in Lewis Carroll studies were drawn to examine these treasures.

Despite the security, however, almost ten years passed before anyone pointed out in print that a "missing page" had been detected and that the gap occurred at a crucial time in Carroll's relationship with the family of Dean Liddell of Christ Church. The missing page, observers deduced, comes at a point when Lewis Carroll might have proposed marriage to Alice Liddell, the Dean's daughter who inspired the *Alice* books, and they concluded, that was why it was missing. In fact, however, the volumes in the British Library lack not only one page — six pages are missing, all deliberately cut out.

The diaries first became a concern of mine in the early 1960s, when, with Roger Lancelyn Green, I undertook to publish Carroll's correspondence. The Dodgson family (all collateral relations, of course, because Carroll never married) agreed to the undertaking. As we discussed the future edition of the letters, we inevitably talked about the surviving diaries. Though not a complete record, nine of thirteen volumes was a sizeable portion. They were important historically and valuable commercially, and they were being kept in a bank vault. My collaborator's edition of the diaries, containing about 60 per cent of the available text, had been published in 1953, but anyone wishing to edit Carroll's letters would benefit hugely from the information in the unpublished portions that would throw light upon the relationships between Carroll and his correspondents.

Others besides us knew of the diaries. For instance, the quest for copies of Carroll's letters, in one instance, led to an invitation to call on a well-known book and manuscript collector. He expressed an interest in the forthcoming edition, but, over lunch, made it clear that he was even more interested in Carroll's manuscript diaries. He knew that the Dodgson family still owned them, he wanted to buy them, and he wanted help in persuading the Dodgson family to sell them

to him. He implied that access to the hundreds of Carroll letters he owned would be forthcoming only if he had full cooperation in acquiring the treasured booklets. "Mr Collector" was a highly successful businessman, and the scholarly grapevine had already passed the message that he did not easily grant access to his holdings. It also seemed fairly certain that if he acquired the diaries, he might well put them in his own vault, regard them as a financial investment, and leave them in the gloom while they grew in value.

The Dodgson family felt that the diaries were a source of worry to them. Was the bank secure enough? Might the manuscripts deteriorate there? Should they be more accessible? If they were to be sold, should they go up for sale at auction, say, at Sotheby's or Christie's? They would, no doubt, bring a good price. But then the family would have no control over who bought them.

One could not hope that the fate of the diaries, if they went up for auction, would match the fortunes of the *Alice* manuscript. That text, having been sold at auction by Alice Liddell (Mrs Hargreaves then), went to the United States. It was returned to London in 1948, however, and installed in the British Museum as a gift from a group of public-spirited bibliophiles expressing gratitude for Britain's courage during the Second World War.

Happily the Dodgson family accepted the suggestion that they get in touch with the Keeper of Manuscripts at the British Museum to see if it could afford to purchase the diaries at a fair price. The Museum's trustees recognized the diaries' importance, made an offer, and the diaries went to their new home in Bloomsbury.

The Dodgson family generously permitted me to photocopy the nine volumes to help in editing and annotating the Carroll letters for publication. But before one could use them properly, they had to be indexed. Fortunately, R. E. Thompson, a professional indexer, had just that year retired from *The Times*, and I engaged him to do the job. It took him a year, but in the end, he produced a 210-page typewritten index, a copy of which was lodged in the British Museum.

Because readers could now consult the diaries and index, some of them, quite naturally, observed the "missing page" and were quick to infer a connection between it and the course of the Dodgson-Liddell friendship. In fact, a distinct break in that friendship occurred at precisely the time covered by the missing page, and the Liddells virtually vanished from the diary at that point. The page undoubtedly contained some account of the rift and the reasons for it. Logic compels us to agree that whoever dismembered the diary by excising the page (it was actually cut out with a razor, leaving behind a ragged bit of writing still visible) wanted to conceal whatever Carroll had written there about the Liddells.

But who cut the page out? Did Carroll himself have second thoughts about some of his entries and delete them — even destroy the missing volumes — in his later years? Definitely not: Carroll always held himself accountable and responsible for everything he did, even for what he thought. He so regulated his life, so arranged his thoughts, so patterned his behaviour, that he emerges consistently as a remarkable human, perhaps even superhuman, being. He never concluded that he had erred, and if ever he did, he owned up to them. He simply



July 4 (P) *Abraham brought over to my rooms some friends of his, a Mrs. & Miss Pether, of whom I took photographs, & also afterwards looked over my albums & told him some of the things I had made on expeditions up the river to Godwin with the 3 Liddells: we had tea on the bank there, & I did not reach G. B. again till 6.15 p.m. I, when we took them on to my rooms to see my collection of miniatures, & showed them to the Deaneys just before 9.*

July 5 (S) *Left, with Abraham, for London at 11.4, meeting at the station the Liddells, who went by the same train. We reached 4.4. After lunch about 11.4, I took the 2.15 to the Liddells' place. After luncheon, Abraham left, & we went to the hotel behind Baynes.*

could not have destroyed one single page of his diaries. If he did not attempt to conceal the facts, then who did? Helmut Gernsheim insists that two of the missing volumes were "destroyed by... [Carroll's] over-conscientious nephew-biographer, Stuart Dodgson Collingwood." We actually have some evidence that Collingwood had all the original thirteen volumes when he wrote his uncle's official biography in 1898, the year that Carroll died. But the nature of Collingwood's work defies the truth of Gernsheim's assertion: Collingwood was scholarly and historical, not afraid to confront sensitive issues.

But who then did wield the razor blade? Where are the four missing volumes? We know that after Stuart Collingwood completed his uncle's biography, the diaries were handed down to the family, bungled about in cellars and under desks, and, so the family legend goes, four volumes were simply lost through neglect. From 1941 to 1950, the diaries were in the custody of Menella Dodgson, Carroll's niece. Unmarried, Carroll well to do, Miss Dodgson lived in seclusion with other maiden sisters in Leamington Spa. In 1957, a wealthy collector of Carroll material sent his daughter and son-in-law down from London to call on the Misses Dodgson, to see if they had any Carroll items they would care to sell. In a letter, the daughter reported their conversation with the Misses Dodgson.

Naturally we asked her about the diaries. She said very emphatically that they are not for sale and will not be as long as the sisters are living. She is going to leave them to some cousins who undoubtedly will sell them.... [We] asked if we could see them. She brought out a small brown cardboard box

Events marking Lewis Carroll's one hundred and fiftieth birthday year begin on Wednesday (the birthday itself with celebratory dinners at Christ Church, Oxford and Barchin, Cheshire (Dodgson/Carroll's birthplace). An exhibition opens that day at the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York (until April 16) and will include, on loan from the British Library, Carroll's manuscript of *Alice's Adventures Under Ground* (this is returning in May, but as yet there are no arrangements for any special exhibition here). The Pierpont Morgan Library is putting the outstanding Arthur A.

Houghton Jr collection of Carrolliana on show for the first time. New York is also promised a play about Carroll's life. Kalamazoo (Radio 4, Wednesday, 9.30 pm) is devoted to Carroll, with Ann Clark, author of *The Real Alice*, and Morton Cohen taking part. Back in Oxford, a two-week exhibition opens the same day at Blackwell's bookshop, with Carroll-inscribed copies of "The Nursery Alice" and "Through the Looking Glass," and the hand-coloured illustrations done from Tenniel's original engravings for the 1911 "Children's Edition" of the *Alice* books. Christ Church



and in it were five or six books with a ruler paper. We were told that some sections had been cut out. Miss Dodgson said she was going to cut out more before she died (she has saved the cut out parts but will not show them to anyone, she said).

"She was going to cut out more," Menella Dodgson may well have done just that and even gone on to destroy one or more of the "lost" volumes. One of the missing volumes is the very first that Carroll wrote, the earliest, the one most closely associated with the family — an excellent candidate for a watchful censor.

Another missing volume covers the months from September 1855 to January 1856, a rather short interval, covering Carroll's earliest professional life at Christ Church, Oxford, but before he met Alice Liddell. This volume could very well have gone astray in the shuffling of books and papers among Dodgson relatives or again, have been consigned to oblivion because it contained the first of the *Alice* sketches, which the Liddells coincided with the period covered in that one missing page, they were too excited or distracted to seek further. The one that searchers have detected contains entries for June 21 to 23, 1855, when the first of the Liddells occurred.

But Carroll's volume 10 ends with an entry for January 24, 1858, and the next volume begins with an entry for April 2, 1858. There must have been entries for the intervening months, all of which the Liddells coincided with the period covered in that one missing page, they were too excited or distracted to seek further. The one that searchers have detected contains entries for June 21 to 23, 1855, when the first of the Liddells occurred.

Much later, however, in 1879, another cut occurs. One page, numbered 109, ends with an incomplete entry dated May 24; the next page, numbered 111, begins with an entry for June 6. Page 110 has been cut out, and here the letters help us.

In June - 1879, Carroll was photographing Ruth, Ethel, and Janet Mayhew, daughters of the sometime chaplain and Hebrew Lecturer at Wadham College, Oxford, and negotiating with Mrs Mayhew, asking her to tell him "exactly what is the minimum of dress I may take [the youngest of the three] in..." Mrs Mayhew acceded to bathing-drawers, but refused to give Carroll carte

admission and preference for the children, perhaps most particularly Alice. These accounts could very well have been meant too strong for Menella Dodgson's sensibilities, and she may have taken the liberty to adjust the record. This protective woman, then, may have destroyed some or all of the missing volumes even as she razored out the troublesome pages from those that survive.

But why have scholars closed in on only a single missing page when six are absent? The answer must be the intervening months, all of which the Liddells coincided with the period covered in that one missing page, they were too excited or distracted to seek further. The one that searchers have detected contains entries for June 21 to 23, 1855, when the first of the Liddells occurred.

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Carroll the photographer by Rejlander and (far left) his portrait of Alice Liddell which he pasted at the end of the manuscript of *Alice's Adventures Under Ground*, the original version of *Alice in Wonderland*. The page from his diary records the day the tale was first told. Left, Menella Dodgson, his niece: was hers the hand that wielded the razor on his diaries?

blanche about "dress," by which he meant permission to photograph the girl undressed. The affair erupted in a series of letters back and forth between Carroll and Mrs Mayhew and exerted considerable strain on the friendship which, like the one with the Liddells, broke in twain. Some commentators attributed Carroll's abandoning photography altogether to the Mayhew affair, although other reasons relating to technical changes in photography and the pressures of his work were undoubtedly also responsible.

Carroll surely recorded the fringes with the Mayhews in his diary, and again Miss Dodgson must have felt the need to sharpen her protective razor. The "case" against Menella Dodgson is enhanced by the fact that as late as the 1930s, Langford Reed, another Carroll biographer, had access to diary material not today in the volumes in the British Library. In his life of Carroll, he prints an entry no one else has published in which Carroll reflects upon the "duty of a companion engaged by Miss Terry to read to her and to brush her hair!" According to Reed, this is what Carroll wrote in his diary: "I can imagine no more delightful occupation than brushing Ellen Terry's hair!" Again, this passage was probably among those that a dutiful niece thought best to eliminate.

But Menella Dodgson, self-appointed censor, was as thorough as she probably meant to be, and, fortunately for us, left intact a good many of Carroll's frank and detailed statements about his attachments and affections. On a passage, already lit upon and made much of by a few British Library readers, is part of the entry Carroll made for October 17, 1866, when, in London, he dined on two successive evenings with his favourite uncle and family member, Skeffington Lutwidge. "On each occasion," the passage reads, "we had a good deal of conversation about Wilfred, and about A.L. — it is a very anxious subject."

Wilfred was Carroll's brother and Menella Dodgson's father — younger than Carroll by six years and twenty-eight at the time. Wilfred had fallen in love with another Alice, Alice Jane Donkin, daughter of a Yorkshire land agent and niece of an Oxford professor of astronomy. A year earlier Carroll had written Wilfred a cautionary letter urging him, because "things are not on a satisfactory footing at present," to keep away "for a couple of years" from the object of his affections, then aged fourteen. When Carroll met with his uncle about the "anxious subject," Alice Donkin was fifteen.

"A.L." of course is Alice Liddell, and the "anxious subject" was not merely Wilfred's attachment to Alice Donkin, but Carroll's attachment to Alice Liddell as well. Alice Liddell was nearly fifteen months younger than Alice Donkin, and the problem, was the same: the great discrepancy in ages between the men and the girls.

That diary entry, one Miss Dodgson did not destroy, is a clincher. We know from this entry alone that, just as Wilfred wished to marry Alice Donkin

(and, in fact, did in 1871, when she was twenty), Carroll wished to marry "his" Alice too. Indeed, there is plenty of evidence in the diaries and elsewhere that Carroll loved Alice Liddell as he loved no other living creature. He wanted to marry her, and he may very well have intended much to the Dean or to Mrs Liddell or both when Alice was only eleven, as she was at the date of the first missing page.

In March, 1885, five years after Alice Liddell was married, Carroll, in writing to her, confessed that his "mental picture is as vivid as ever, of one who was, through so many years, my ideal child-friend. I have had scores of child-friends since your time: but they have been quite a different thing". And then, three years later, in November, 1888, when Alice's husband came to dine at Christ Church, Carroll wrote in his diary: "It was not easy to link in one's mind the new face with the olden memory — the stranger with the once-so-intimately known and loved 'Alice' whom I shall always remember best as an entirely fascinating little seven-year-old maiden".

Lewis Carroll, who grew up in a large, happy family of eleven children, was himself a family man, a marrying man. He believed that "God has implanted sexual desires [in us all, and that]... God forbids us to arouse or encourage these desires, except for the object, for which He gave them, marriage". This he believed firmly, and this is why his life was ruled by uncompromising restraint.

True, a great gulf of years usually existed between Carroll and the objects of his fascination. But in Victorian times and before then, the love of mature men for females whom we today would regard as mere children was less exceptional than it is for us. Carroll did not, after all, invent the notion of the child bride. Freud, whose work was still to come when Carroll entertained his wish to marry Alice Liddell, has made us all suspicious of relationships, once regarded as natural, when Freud unlocked the cavern of the unconscious, he closed the door on various styles of friendship and love.

Carroll would never actually have proposed marriage to the eleven-year-old Alice or even more to the notion to her parents. The most he would have done was to indicate a romantic interest in her and to suggest the possibility of a union in the future. But Carroll was unacceptable to the ambitious Mrs Liddell who, herself married to a distinguished churchman and scholar with considerable connections, was determined to make suitable matches for her daughters. If an elderly aristocrat had been suggested as a suitor, age probably would not have been a factor.

Had Carroll succeeded in marrying Alice, for that matter, someone else, his wife would have led a charmed life and been the object of care and devotion the likes of which few people have ever known. For Carroll was an extraordinarily considerate man. He loved with a tenderness and gave a freely of himself and his goods. Nor was he devoted only to young girls, for he gave to people of all ages, men, women, girls and boys. And when he realized that his children's books would bring in a reasonable income for the rest of his life, he even asked the University of Oxford to reduce his salary. "One of the deep secrets of life," he wrote to his friend Ellen Terry, "is that all that is really worth... is doing is what we are or ought to be. He meant it, and anyone who comes to know him and the life he led sees that he practised that dictum always.

Alice, by all accounts, was a beauty — but as a person rather than a creature of his creative imagination. Carroll, on the other hand, could create wonderlands and worlds behind looking-glasses at the sight of a pen and notepad or, better still, a pair of interested children's eyes. He would have delighted and amused Alice, and the later generation of Alices, with games, puzzles, stories, riddles and hoaxes; he would have lavished on them the rare products of a truly gifted imagination, an imagination that saw deep into a child's heart, and yet one that could entertain young and old alike.

Menella Dodgson cannot conceal these facts from us. But Mrs Liddell, not Menella Dodgson, is the villain of the piece, if indeed she drove Carroll from the Deaneys. For what she really did was to consign her daughter Alice to life in an out-of-the-way country house in marriage to a dull and undistinguished country gentleman.

Carroll survived his heartbreaks and went on to lead a resoundingly productive life; poor Alice's only claim to fame is that she was the model for the main character of Carroll's two children's books. What a glorious story we might have been able to tell, on this, the 150th birthday of the genius who could embody in one being the world of higher mathematics and nonsensical wonderlands — what a glorious tale we would have told had been given the hand of his choice in marriage and fathered children of his own to inspire him to even greater heights of creativity.

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Morton N. Cohen, Professor Emeritus of The City University of New York, edited *The Letters of Lewis Carroll* (2 vols.) and is now writing a life of Carroll.



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Symphony No. 3 in D major (Unfinished) by Beethoven

Symphony No. 4 in D major (Unfinished) by Beethoven

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Symphony No. 7 in D major (Unfinished) by Beethoven

Symphony No. 8 in D major (Unfinished) by Beethoven

Symphony No. 9 in D major (Unfinished) by Beethoven

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Symphony No. 11 in D major (Unfinished) by Beethoven

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Overture, 'The Barber of Seville' by ROSSINI

Ballet Music from 'Romeo and Juliet' by SCHUBERT

Overture, Scherzo and Nocturne from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by MENDELSSOHN

Symphony No. 41 (Jupiter) by MOZART

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Four Last Songs by STRAUSS

Symphony No. 6 in F major (Pastoral) by BEETHOVEN

Saturday 30 January at 7.30 p.m.

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Fantasy Overture: Romeo and Juliet (original version)

Music from the Nutcracker

Overture '1812' with Cannon & Mortar Effects

New Symphony Orchestra

JAMES ELAK conductor

Sunday 27 February at 7.30

VICTOR BOCHHAUSER presents

SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY at 7.30

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New Symphony Orchestra

JAMES ELAK conductor

Sunday 27 February at 7.30

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New Symphony Orchestra

JAMES ELAK conductor

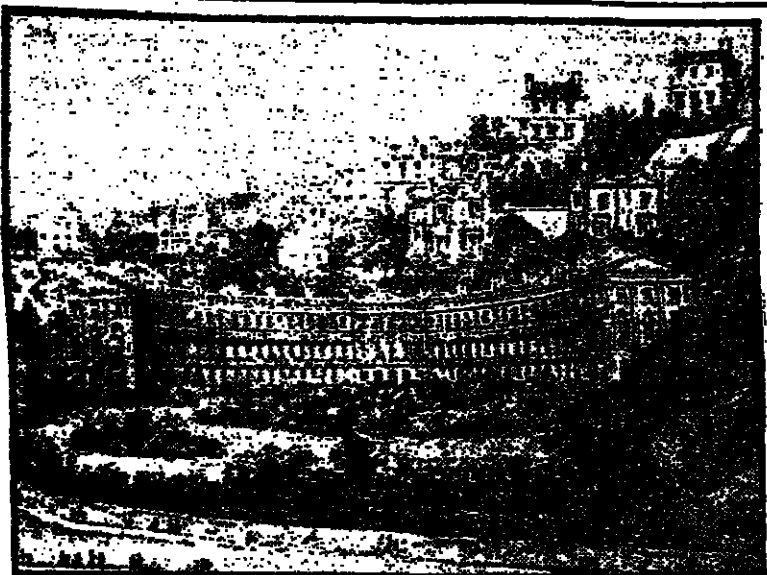
Sunday 27 February at 7.30

VICTOR BOCHHAUSER presents

SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY at 7.30

TCHAIKOVSKY

Shoparound with Beryl Downing



Hesket Crescent, Torquay, from a nineteenth century engraving. Today, the Osborne Hotel is in the centre of the terrace.

More chance to be impure

I am not a healthaholic. The idea of a week's supervised starvation on £250 worth of lemon juice has always seemed to me to be one of the more ludicrous ways of trying to dispose of the body bountiful. I don't want to be pure inside — I want to be thin outside, which in theory will give me the chance of being rather more impure all round.

So when I was told I could spend two days eating lots of delicious food without putting on an ounce and with even the chance of losing a couple of pounds, I couldn't resist playing leapfrog for a weekend.

Don't be alarmed — this is not the latest cult exercise from America and you don't actually have to jump over anything. Leapfrogs is the name of an all-in health and beauty weekend package planned to snap you out of your winter torpor. And it all takes place in the comfort of an elegant hotel — the Osborne in Torquay.

The programme starts at 6 pm on Friday with a tour round Gary Richards's basement health club where you will be shedding flab in all directions. Then there is a misery-inducing weigh-in, presumably designed to make you pathetically grateful at the idea of ever eating again.

You need not worry. Dinner upstairs in Chives restaurant, attached to the hotel, is low-ish in calories, but very filling — lots of Norwegian prawns with lemon juice instead of mayonnaise, a choice of poached sole with yogurt, chicken with peppers, grilled steak or seafood platter, and then pear with white wine or a similar pud, or low calorie cheeses. Non-dieters can choose from the standard restaurant menu, with the possibility of a supplementary charge if they are very extravagant.

On Saturday, men use the gym first while women have a dance and movement session before a salad lunch. The afternoon is free for tennis, snooker, table tennis — or a walk to the nearby Kent's Cavern, one of the most ancient habitations in Britain — used by cavemen 100,000 years ago.

Women have their turn in the gym in the afternoon. You will be taken through a programme of exercise by a slyph in a shiny, kaftan-like outfit, and then make her look like a perfectly contoured water sprite. You will hate her. However, unlike mother, she really does know what is

best for you and will decide what exercise will help to correct individual problems, so you will just have to swallow your jealousy and get on with it.

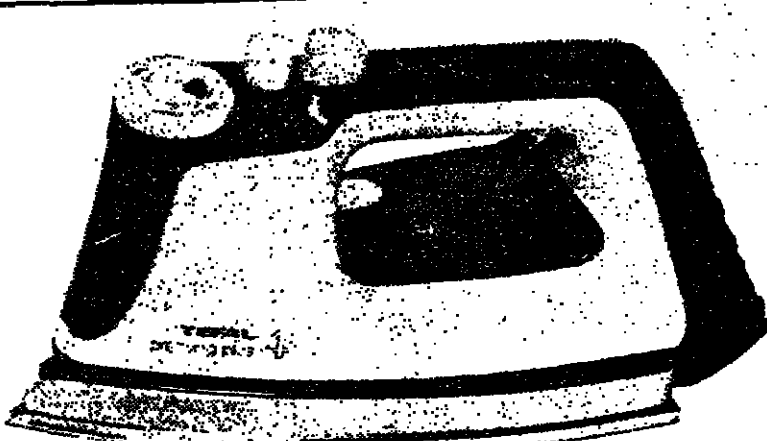
After exercises come shower, sauna, jacuzzi, sunbed. There are various beauty treatments, too, but these are extra. On Sunday more gym in the morning, buffet lunch and tennis or whatever you choose to enjoy before departing, clutching your diet and exercise programme to help your strengthened resolve. If you go to Torquay by car you might also like to visit Dartington to buy cheap second hand glass and to have a drink at the fourteenth century thatched Cott Inn near Totnes, where Daniel Defoe wrote *Robinson Crusoe*.

The most agreeable aspect of the whole weekend is that you don't feel forced to do anything. The hotel is relaxed and friendly and nobody makes you feel that everything has to hurt before it does you good.

The Osborne itself has a magnificent palm-fringed Mediterranean outlook over Torbay — a curved Regency-style terrace built in 1846 by Sir Lawrence Palk, whose colourful descendant, the second Lord Haldon, is said to have gambled away his fortune by the then popular sport of racing spiders round a dinner plate.

The Leapfrogs weekend packages (available from next weekend to February 26/March 2) cost £70 including all meals from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch. More details from the Osborne Hotel, Hesket Crescent, Torquay, telephone 0803 21311. If you go with a friend who isn't on the health club kick, bed and continental breakfast is £13.50 (not a lot compared with other top hotels in Torquay), and the main courses in Chives restaurant is around £5.50.

Results? If you are serious about slimming you could lose a couple of pounds, which is enough to encourage you to keep up the good work when you get home. You will not lose 4½ one day and have a jolly pinny evening and put it all back the next (I did). You will not make the rail strike a good excuse for staying another night and have an enormous naughty nosh in a Chinese chippy on Sunday (I did). But you will have a wonderful weekend (I did), that makes a slim spring seem possible after all.



Lightening the load

If you are thinking of updating your home laundering equipment, here are two new ways to make life easier — a washing machine with free servicing for five years and a steam iron which takes ordinary tap water without furring up.

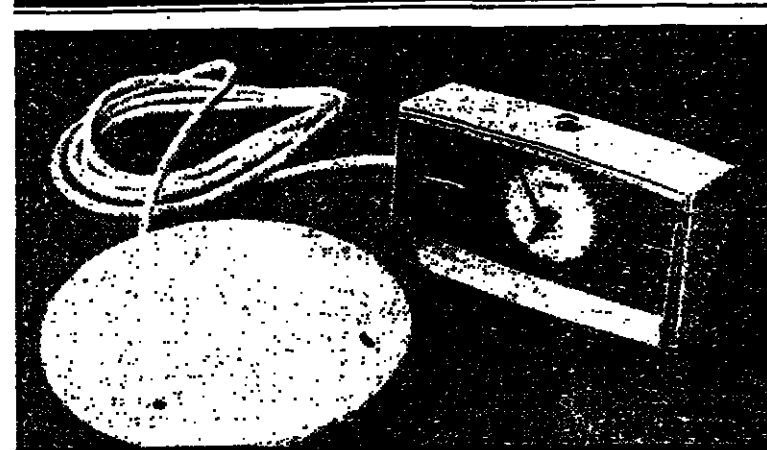
The washing machine is by Candy and has a stainless steel drum to overcome corrosion and a new construction which avoids stress caused by heat and vibration — both features cutting down the likelihood of failure and the need for replacements. It costs around £250 from Alders of Croydon.

Under the special servicing arrangement you pay £34.95 for

five years' cover of parts and labour if anything should go wrong — and at the end of that time you get a refund of the whole amount. This arrangement is at the moment available only until June this year, but it may be extended.

The steam iron by Tefal is heavy enough to press efficiently without any tiring extra elbow power. It has an excellent spray which is fine enough to damp the area in front of the iron tip without producing a puddle and it has a clear panel on the body which shows the water level.

The heel is well proportioned and allows the iron to remain steady when upright and appearance, as you can see, is neat and streamlined. On the whole, irons come fairly low on my list of rivetingly fascinating topics, but this one I like. It costs £20 from branches of Rumbelows.



An electric alarm clock with an extension pad which vibrates under the pillow has been designed for deaf people — but it would be just as helpful to those who simply cannot wake up in the morning. Developed by engineers for the Royal National Institute for the Deaf, the clock has an audible alarm if you wish to use it conventionally, plus the pad attached by a long flex. The pad vibrates gently and persistently until the sleeper wakes. The Vibrator is available from Niagara Therapy (UK) Ltd, 251 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 1HG, at £37.10, including postage. If a medical certificate is produced, VAT will be deducted.

Decorate the design kit way

Plenty of best selling authors are besotted by bed. Some devote a good deal of space to loafers on sofas, others are clearly turned on by shower power. Mary Gilliat manages to inject a strong infusion of all three into her latest book — and the result is an enormously successful encyclopedia of decorating.

It is unusual for any book priced at £16.95 to sell in hundreds of thousands, to be selected by five book clubs and to be destined for translation into German, Dutch, French, Spanish, Japanese and Norwegian, but, apart from her obvious talent, Mary Gilliat has something that sets her apart from all other interior designers — an ability to inspire confidence in the most amateur decorator.

She also has a rare generosity — a willingness to let you in to her professional secrets, and this may be because she had no formal design training but learnt the hard way, by making her own mistakes. She began her career as a journalist, having won a *Vogue* talent competition, and was simply thrown in at the deep end when a developer asked her to design a show house.

Although she is now quite accustomed to designing lavish schemes for grand apartments and houses here and in America (so many that she now has a house in Connecticut so that she can operate efficiently on both sides of the Atlantic) she actually likes to do schemes that are limited by a budget.

"I hate things to look too new



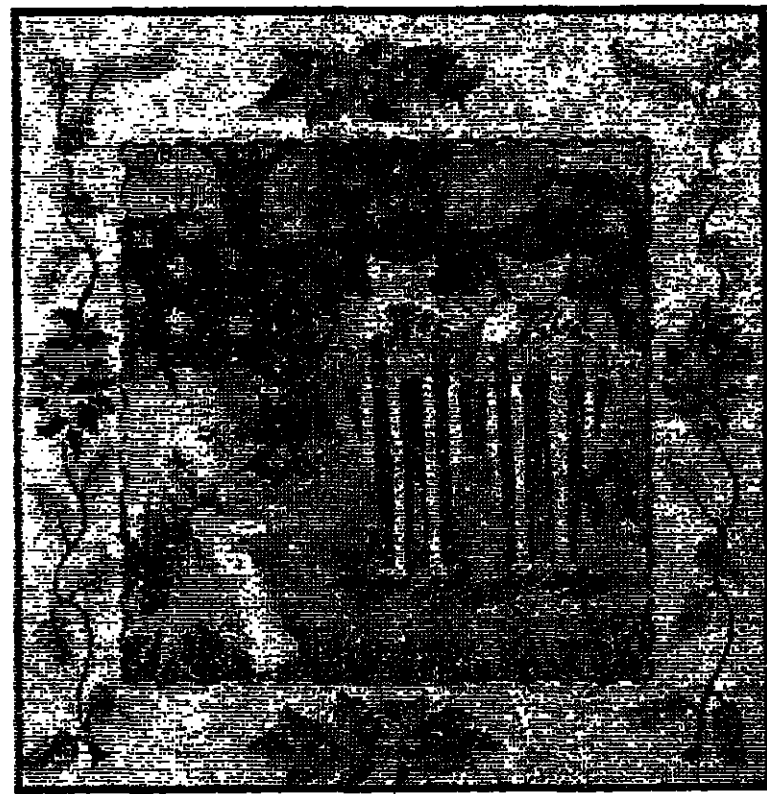
For those, like me, who have killer thumbs instead of green fingers, a watering gadget to help your Christmas plants live as long as possible — or keep them happy while you abandon them for the ski slopes. The Sunal is a porous earthenware cone attached to a weighted feed tube placed in a container of water next to the pot. It maintains the correct moisture level in the soil for each plant's needs. £1.50 from Setridges and branches of Rochford's Nurseries or £4.50 a pack of three (including postage) from Raygams, 15 Mayfield Gardens, London, NW4, telephone (01) 202 4714.

Tenniel in tapestry

If you would like to commemorate the 150th birthday of Lewis Carroll on January 27 by producing a piece of handwork to last for another century or so, you may care to choose a tapestry designed by Stelly Levy based on the Tenniel drawing of Tweedle-dum and Tweedledee.

Purists may quarrel with the reversal of the Dice and Drum, but they can wait for further Alice tapestries which will follow later this year. This tapestry, 14in square, complete with brightly coloured wools, uses long and short stitch for the design, so as to tent stitch for the design, so it is quick to do and has a varied texture.

It is available at Liberty, Regent Street, W1, at £19.95 plus £1 p & p or, for the next fortnight only, as a special birthday offer for Times readers, at £15.95 including postage direct from Stella Levy Designs, 37 Gower Street, London WC1, telephone 01-537 1530. The offer closes on February 6.



Mary Gilliat: too much choice

and perfect and very decorated", she says. "One of the problems in decorating is too much choice, not too little, so when your selection is limited by a given amount of money you think of much more interesting and ingenious ways of doing things."

"I always start with colour. I advise people to make a collection of colour pictures of furnishings from magazines — anything that pleases them. Put them in a file, leave them out for a while and then take them out and study them. Your preference in shapes and colours is almost always immediately obvious."

Too many people make the mistake of impulse buying instead of working out a budget, and a long-term plan. Lots of people who think of themselves as avant garde are really still influenced by what their parents bought and rush out and spend all their money on a three-piece suite because they think they can't live without one.

Another way of avoiding mistakes is to use the design kit at the back of *The Decorating Book* (Michael Joseph £16.95). Having studied the sections on principles of design, and the room-by-room guide which shows how the same room can be

treated in several different styles to suit a variety of tastes, you can make your own schemes by using the graph paper and cut-out furniture in the design kit and by referring to the Sample Book section of wallpapers, fabrics and floorcoverings to coordinate colours and patterns.

If you have rather more in the kitty you could ask Mary's professional opinion for a consultation fee of £50 plus £250 to £500 design fee for each room — but you can recoup that on the discounts she passes on when you buy furnishings through her. Or you can simply wait until the autumn for her next book — a collection, something like a cookbook, of decoration "recipes" for cheap chic in furnishing. If it is as handsome as *The Decorating Book* there should be a property boom caused by the thousands of readers all wanting to buy a new house just to put the ideas into practice.

The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole

The best of British

When a cook as well regarded as The Dorchester's maitre chef — Anton Mosimann — decides that only British food will be served in the hotel's grill room, home cooking can certainly be said to have arrived somewhere. In this case though it is home cooking mostly in the sense that the dishes and ingredients are the best of British.

Sauces thickened with flour are out in Chef Mosimann's subterranean domain, and so are soggy veg. *Nouvelle cuisine*, for want of a better phrase, rules in the recently revamped Terrace Restaurant upstairs, and its influence is soon to be felt across the hall in that tapestried bastion of roast beef and lamb chops, The Grill. Tripe with onions, roast sucking pig with walnut and apple stuffing and boiled leg of lamb with caper sauce are just a few of the traditional dishes to be relaunched next week in modern dress.

Chef Mosimann is not the first person to point out that there is nothing new in cooking and he has no intention of banishing Yorkshire pudding from the new menu. What he is up to is more subtle than that. "Take ox-tail. If it is in a heavy thick sauce full of flour I don't want to eat it", he says. "But with our modern approach it is in a beautiful shiny sauce. Reducing the cooking liquid twice before braising it encourages the gelatine to come out of the ox-tail and shine the sauce."

Lightness, simplicity and clarity of flavour are the goals of what he calls his "attack" on British cooking. So in other dishes like the halibut poached in dry cider, cream is the thickening agent. In this case the sauce gains in calories as well as taste and lightness. And the

same thing is true of The Dorchester's soufflé-like bread pudding. This week's recipes then are Anton Mosimann's, with additional details gleaned from a happy morning spent in his kitchen and from cooking the dishes at home.

Poached halibut in dry cider

Serves four
4x170 g (6 oz) halibut fillets (supremes, see method)
Salt and freshly ground white pepper

30 g (1 oz) butter

55 g (2oz) carrot, cut in fine strips

55 g (2 oz) celery, cut in fine strips

55 g (2 oz) leek, cut in fine strips

120 ml (4 fl oz) fish stock

300 ml (¼ pint) dry cider, preferably Blackthorn

4 tomatoes, peeled, seeded and very finely chopped

250 ml (8 fl oz) double cream

Finely chopped parsley to garnish

Supremes are skinless fillets of large fish, each of which is big enough to make one portion. Halibut is usually sold in steaks. But if you buy one piece large enough for four servings, it can be skinned and a flat fillet cut from each side of the spine, top and bottom.

Dry the fish and season it lightly with salt and pepper. Melt the butter in a heavy sauce or frying pan and add the carrot, celery and leek. Sauté them gently for a minute or two without allowing them to brown, then add the fish. Pour over the fish stock and cook on a high heat. The stock should be bubbling briskly. Allow the stock to reduce to just a few tablespoons, then add the

cider. Continue poaching until the fish is done.

Ideally, the fish will be cooked and the liquid reduced to about 150 ml (¼ pint) simultaneously. If the liquid is reduced too fast, cover the pan until the fish is ready. As soon as the fish is cooked, remove it from the pan and keep it warm.

Reduce the liquid in the pan by fast boiling to 150 ml (¼ pint) if there is more than that quantity, and add the chopped tomato and cream. Shake or stir the sauce over a medium heat to blend the cream and stock and continue cooking until the mixture has reduced by about half and thickened a little.

Arrange the halibut on warmed serving plates. Add any juices which have run out of the fish to the sauce, unless this is reduced too much, and adjust the seasoning. Pour the sauce over the fish and sprinkle each portion with a little chopped parsley.

Braised ox-tail

Serves four

1.5 kg (3½ lbs) ox-tail

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

3 tablespoons oil, preferably peanut

200 g (7 oz) mirepoix (chopped leek, carrot, celery and onion)

200 ml (7 fl oz) red wine

1 litre (1¾ pints) brown stock

3 tablespoons tomato purée

1 bay leaf

1 sprig of thyme

For the garnish

140 g (5 oz) carrots

140 g (5 oz) turnips

110 g (4 oz) button onions, peeled

30 g (1 oz) butter (optional, see method)
30 g (1 oz) finely chopped parsley

Cut the ox-tail into pieces 2.5 to 5 cm (1 to 2 inches) thick and season them with salt and pepper. Heat the oil in a heavy flameproof casserole, and sauté the ox-tail until it is well browned. Add the mirepoix and cook the vegetables until they too are well browned.

Add the wine and cook on a high heat until it has reduced to just a few tablespoons, then add one third of the stock and continue boiling until it too is well reduced. Now add the remaining stock, the tomato purée, bay leaf and thyme. Cover the casserole and braise the ox-tail in a preheated moderately hot oven (180°C/375°F, gas mark 6) for about 2½ hours, or until the ox-tail is very tender.

While the ox-tail is cooking, prepare the vegetables for the garnish. To turn the carrots and turnips is an optional refinement. Use a sharp knife to shape the vegetables into elongated miniature rugby balls about the size of a large teaspoon. Uniformity is the aim, and it takes practice, but the results do give a well finished appearance to the completed dish. The carrots can, of course, be used for soup or stock.

When the ox-tail is tender, take the pieces from the casserole and skin the fat from the sauce, then pass it through a fine sieve, pressing through as much of the mirepoix as possible. Return the sauce and ox-tail to the casserole and add the turned carrots and turnips, and the button onions. Cook the braise for another 30 min-

utes. Adjust the seasoning to taste and serve with a sprinkling of parsley.

The vegetable garnishes may be cooked separately in the butter and added to the braise when it is served.

Bread and butter pudding

Serves four

250 ml (8 fl oz) milk

250 ml (8 fl oz) double cream

A pinch of salt

1 vanilla pod

3 eggs

110 g (4 oz) sugar

3 small bread rolls

30 g (1 oz) butter

1 tablespoon sultanas or currants, soaked in water

1½ tablespoons apricot jam

A little icing sugar

Put the milk, cream, salt and vanilla pod in a pan and bring to the boil. Combine the eggs and sugar in a bowl and mix well. Remove the vanilla pod from the hot cream and pour it into the egg mixture, stirring briskly. Sieve this custard. Cut the rolls in thin slices discarding the top and bottom crusts, and butter them.

Arrange the slices in an ovenproof dish and sprinkle them with the soaked sultanas or currants. Add the custard and dot with any remaining butter. Bake the pudding in a water bath of boiling water which comes half way up the sides of the dish in a cool oven (140°C/275°F, gas mark 1) for about 1 hour, or until just firm.

Spread the apricot jam

over the top of the pudding and dust it lightly with icing sugar. Set the glaze under the grill, browning it lightly. Serve the pudding hot, warm or cold with cream or bottled fruit.

Gardening/Roy Hay

Half measures in the bed

For a time hardy annual flowers — those which may be sown in the open where they are to bloom — lost much of their popularity. Obviously it is much easier to buy a few boxes of half hardy annuals — marigolds, petunias, zinnias and plant them out.

The preparation of the ground is the same for hardy and half hardy annuals, but with the former you have to sow the seeds and thin the seedlings perhaps twice. But for the price of two or three boxes of half hardy annuals you can buy a lot of packets of hardy annuals and have a splendid, colourful show.

While there are dozens of varieties among the half hardy and tender flowers from seed, I can find only two *F. calendula*. One is "Mandarin" (3,4) — see footnote), a recent introduction which flowers earlier and more freely than the old varieties, producing double orange flowers, and is good for the garden and for cutting. A sister *F. variety* is "Apricot Sherbert" with large salmon-yellow flowers. Why there are so few *F. hybrids* I have no idea.

We can of course treat some hardy biennial and perennial flowers as annuals: the modern *F. pansies* will flower the same year, but to do so need to be sown in a heated greenhouse in February or March. Sown in the open in a seed bed or in a cold frame in June or July, they may be planted out in the autumn. We have had some in bloom even until they were covered with snow and I hope they will flower generously all next spring and summer.

We have grown the blue and the yellow *F. varieties* for some years and last year, for the first time, we tried "Indian Boy" (4), rich red,

and "Imperial Orange" (2,4), a very large flowered pansy of a rich orange with a black blotch. They are really excellent.

Shirely poppies, both the single and double mixtures, are sadly neglected these days, they may be sown in the open in spring or in September to flower rather earlier the following year than the spring sown seed.

They are very useful to sow to follow some of the earlier summer flowers — a few sown under bearded irises will bring colour to that patch of bed or border after the irises have finished. Devoted iris lovers would probably disapprove but I have always found these plants to be cheerful bedfellows.

Nasturtiums, tall and dwarf, are very good value for filling in gaps in shrub or herbaceous beds or borders, for tubs and window boxes or hanging baskets.

We are particularly fond of the dwarf variety "Alaska" (1,2,3,4) which has orange, crimson, yellow, salmon or cerise flowers with green and cream variegated foliage. We have sown a few in gaps in our crazy paved areas last year and they were very effective.

The poached egg flower *Limonanthus douglasii* (1,2,3), so called because it has a yellow flowers edged with white, is a splendid annual flowering as an edging to borders or under roses for many weeks in summer. It also seeds itself freely and once you have it you always have it — at least it has been seeding itself for many years in our garden.

An outstanding candytuft, "Red Flash" (1,2,3,4), is a vivid shade of carmine red, and like all the candytufts, might be more often grown as they are sweetly scented. Presumably because many

annual flowers are brightly coloured, nature has not thought it necessary to endow many of them with fragrance — the dowdy mignonette would not catch the eye of pollinating insects and so is richly scented.

As sweet peas are self pollinated and hence do not need to attract insects, one wonders why the original *Lathyrus odoratus* and the early forms now sold as "old fashioned" varieties, which were not very showy by modern standards, were so still so — powerfully fragrant. One can still buy mixtures of these old favourites.

Many new sweet pea varieties too are strongly scented, particularly the novelty "Royal Wedding" (4), a large flowered, long stemmed pure white variety. Sadly the other outstanding novelty of the year, "Brian Clough" (4), has little scent but is a splendid salmon orange.

Stockists:
(1) Dobie & Son, Upper Dee Mills, Llangollen, Clwyd, LL20 8SD.
(2) Sutton Seeds, Helle Road, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 7QJ.
(3) Thompson & Morgan, London Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 0BA.
(4) J. W. J. Seeds, Histon, Cambridge.

Competition Results

We were delighted again this week with awful puns (Food-lew, Downgraded, etc.) as caption to our picture of Lord Grade in retreat. "Biodegradable" was the least awful, from Mr Theodore Crombie of south London who is the runner-up. The winner, with (not much better) "The End of the Peer Show", is Mr A. Phillips of Wembley, Middlesex.

Travel/edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Buying British/John Carter Playing on the home ground

Unless you were planning to return to old haunts — the hotel or guest house that had accommodated you for a dozen summer seasons or, more likely, to friends or relatives who would put you up (or put up with you) for a couple of weeks, the business of organizing a holiday in Britain used to be a very complicated affair.

You answered the resort advertisement, sending off the required postal order for its guide, and from that selected your hotel or guest house which you then telephoned or, usually, wrote to. If your first or second choice could not accommodate you when you wished, you had to press on through the list, working by hunch rather than any form of star rating, and worrying about it all increasingly as the days passed and you received no reply, despite the obligatory "see enclosed".

If the same ponderous technique had applied to foreign holidays, we should never have colonised the shores of Spain or Italy as we did, never got to grips with Greece or tackled Tunisia. But the technique did not apply. Instead we learned to identify and purchase "package" holidays, presented to us in glossy brochures and purchasable in a simple single transaction over a travel agency counter.

It is to their credit that those made responsible for the promotion of holidays in Britain at the end of the 1960s quickly came to grips with that basic problem, and have made the buying of a "domestic" holiday as simple as the buying of a foreign one.

Perhaps that does not apply to the entire range of holidays, but it certainly applies to most. And it has to be said that some of the best tourist literature now being produced is that coming from the national and regional boards in England, Scotland and Wales.

Take, for example, the glossy *England Holidays '82* which was produced in the middle of last month by the English Tourist Board, as the official guide to what is available. As weighty (104 pages) as your average holiday brochure, it contains information about seaside and countryside holidays, touring and self-catering holidays and those which fall into the "activity and special interest" categories.

I shall get down to some specifics in a moment, but the general point to be made — and borne in mind — is that many of the holidays are bookable through a travel agent (from whom, incidentally, the brochure may be obtained). What is more, some 1,000 agents and 30 leading holiday companies have joined together, with the support of the ETB, to form Holiday UK. Member agents carry supplies of special brochures to supplement the travel companies' own material — all in an effort to educate the public to think about domestic holidays in the same package deal terms as they do holidays abroad.

Not that the holiday companies have been slow to produce their British packages. The names of Butlins, Warners and Pontins among holiday camp operators, and of Blakes and Hosesons in hosting holidays have been familiar for many years. What has happened is that those well-established con-



Arthur Roberts

cerns have been joined by a host of smaller ones — in some cases single hotels have got into the "package" act in order to fill their rooms.

The ETB's main brochure guides the holidaymaker towards particular regions of England, listing the addresses of regional tourist boards, from whom more information may be obtained. It also gives, for example, the names of coach operators, divided into the regions from which they operate, whether the holidays they offer are of the touring kind or at particular resorts with connecting coach travel. It also lists companies offering resort holidays by rail and the overwhelming majority of all of these are marked as selling through travel agents.

Self-catering holidays represent the biggest growth area, in domestic holidays, and there are plenty of companies offering houses and cottages for rent. Blakes and Hosesons have branched into this field, but there are many other small companies, of which, for example, English Country Cottages of Claypit Lane, Fakenham, Norfolk, offer more than 750 properties throughout the country, sleeping from two to 14 people and ranging from country mansions to farm-houses.

Grey Abbey Properties (Dept. TB P.O. Box 23, Coach Road, Whitehaven, Cumbria) have cottages, flats, houses and caravans in and around the northern part of the Lake District, while Fairbairn's Holiday Cottages (Marine Road, Box 4, Uckfield, East Sussex) specialises in the South east, the West country and the Cotswolds.

If you fancy the countryside, but not self-catering, then the ETB book lists half a dozen companies offering farmhouse accommodation, from £42 for a week on half board terms. Those who wish to get right away from the crowds, however, might go for the log cabins that the Forestry Commission has available in the Kernow Forest in Cornwall and in the Cropton Forest in the North Yorkshire Moors (Forestry Holiday Bookings, 231 Corporation Road, Edinburgh, EH2 7AT).

Writing that Edinburgh reminds me that although I have so far concentrated on holidays in England, a similar selection

is available in Scotland and Wales, whose respective tourist boards have produced similar guidebooks to that from the ETB. A travel agent should, similarly, be able to help with further information. He should also be able to help if you want to book one of the very many activity and special interest holidays that are available throughout Britain.

So far I have mentioned only "official" literature from the national and regional boards, and this is invaluable for any one who wants to create his or her style of holiday. If the very usual package deal is your fancy, however, the likes of Blakes and Hosesons, of Butlins, Pontins and Warners, to say nothing of the coach tour companies and Golden Rail, all have their own brochures on the travel agency shelves.

To a greater extent they are offering the mixture as before, but as one sales director put it when we spoke at the beginning of this month: "If it works, why change it?" and sales figures indicate that the old formulas do work in respect of domestic holiday packages — familiarity breeds content.

All that needs to happen now is for the individual seaside resorts to look long and hard at the way they regard their main industry, and to become as up to date in their publicity and marketing as the "commercial" travel trade. National and regional tourist boards are giving a lead in this, but by and large the resorts are lagging. Still, you can always answer the small ads, send off the postal order for the guide and go through the tedious old process of writing off to individual hotels and guest houses ("see enclosed"). Somehow, though, I think there must be a better way of going about it.

Winter holiday discount news

Destination	Nights	Company	Price	Save	Departures
SKENING					
Zermatt, Switzerland	7/1/b	Ski West	£139	£48	Jan 30
Courchevel, France	7/1/b	Ski West	£169	£60	Feb 6
Courchevel	14/1/b	Ski West	£199	£108	Jan 30
Courmayeur, Italy	7/1/b	Ski West	£109	£58	Feb 6
Zermatt	7/s/c	Ski West	£125	£60	Feb 6
Verbier, Switzerland	7/s/c	Ski West	£103	£30	Jan 30
Meribel, France	7/s/c	Ski West	£120	£30	Feb 6
Les Arcs, France	7/14 s/c	Ernie Low	£111/171	£50	Feb 6
Courchevel	7/14 s/c	Holiday Villas	£95/126	£24/36	Jan 30
Courchevel	7/14 s/c	Holiday Villas	£134/171	£15/19	Feb 6
Tignes, France	7/1/b	Supertavel	£149/164	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
Val d'Isere, France	7/1/b	Supertavel	£154/169	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
La Plagne, France	7/1/b	Supertavel	£164/179	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
Avoriaz, France	7/1/b	Supertavel	£168	£35	Jan 30
Meribel, France	7/1/b	Supertavel	£168	£35	Feb 6
Courchevel	7/1/b	Supertavel	£189/214	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
St Anton, Austria	7/1/b	Supertavel	£164/179	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
Lech, Austria	7/1/b	Supertavel	£164/199	£35	Jan 30 & Feb 6
Saas Fee, Switzerland	7/1/b	Supertavel	£144	£35	Jan 30
Verbier, Switzerland	7/1/b	Supertavel	£184	£35	Feb 6
WINTER SUN					
Benidorm	7/h/b	Tjereborg*	£105	£24	Feb 6, & Manchester
Morocco tour	14/1/b	Tjereborg*	£209	£30	Feb 5 & 12, & Manchester
Rome	3/b/b	Thomson	£92	£30	Jan 28
Tunisia	7/h/b	Thomson	£139	£25	Feb 4, Luton
Majorca	7/h/b	Thomson	£109	£20	Feb 8, Cardiff
Majorca	7/h/b	Thomson	£129	£30	Feb 7, Glasgow
Athens	7/b/b	Thomson	£114	£40	Feb 7, Luton
Ellat, Israel	7/b/b	Twickenham Travel	£199	£43	Jan 31
Red Sea flotilla	7/s/c	Twickenham Travel	£199	£50	Jan 31, 22, Feb 7, 14, 21, & 28
Malta	7/14 h/b	Portland*	£119/159	£32/40	Feb 5 Luton
Tunisia	7/14/1/b	Portland	£119/£149	£21/23	Feb 5 Luton
Majorca	7/14/1/b	Portland	£105/129	£15/18	Feb 6
Costa Blanca	7/h/b	Portland	£95	£16	Feb 7
Costa Brava	7/14/1/b	Enterprise	£97/97	£30/40	Mar 6, 13, 20 & 27
Majorca	11/1/b	Enterprise	£99	£40	Feb 23
Majorca	11/1/b	Enterprise	£103	£40	Mar 2, 9, 16 & 23
Majorca	10/1/b	Enterprise	£94/98	£40	Feb 27, Mar 6, 13, 20 & 27
Costa Blanca	7/14/1/b	Enterprise	£97/123	£30/40	Feb 21, 28, Mar 7, 14, 21 & 28
Costa del Sol	7/14/1/b	Enterprise	£113/149	£30/40	Mar 7, 14 & 21
Costa del Sol	10/1/b	Enterprise	£122	£35	Mar 7, 14 & 21
Costa del Sol	11/1/b	Enterprise	£127	£35	Mar 10, 17 & 24
Algarve	11/h/b	Enterprise	£119/126	£45	Feb 10, 17, 24, Mar 3, 10 & 17
Crete	7/14 h/b	Sovereign	£180/240	£20/30	Mar 4, 11 & 18
Malta	7/14 h/b	Sovereign	£180/270	£33/44	Mar 4, 11 & 18 & 25
Agadir, Morocco	7/14 h/b	Sovereign	£180/280	£32/27	Mar 12, 19 & 26

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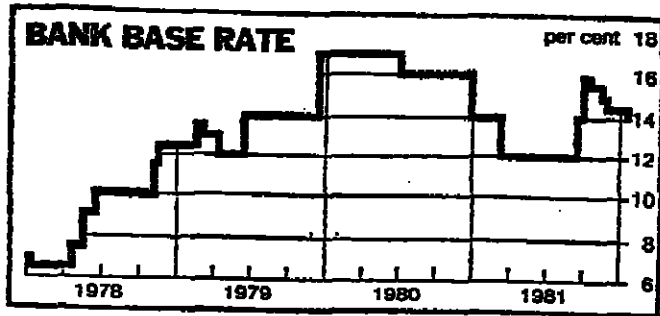
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BUSINESS NEWS

Bank rate falls



The banks' base lending rates, which went up from 12 per cent to 16 per cent late last summer in response to a surge in bank lending and weakness in sterling, are coming down from 14% to 14 per cent. Mortgage rates will remain unchanged.

Britain's top earner

Mr Richard Giordano, the 46-year-old American chief executive of BOC International, continues to be Britain's highest paid executive with a salary last year of £477,100. This is disclosed in BOC's latest annual report for the year to September 1980. In 1980 he earned a record £271,400.

Romanian debt talks

Western bankers had further talks with Romanian officials on Thursday and yesterday in Bucharest against a background of growing concern over Romania's failure to keep up with repayments on its foreign debt estimated at \$10,000m to \$13,000m (£5,300m to £6,500m).

EEC jobless top 10 million

The number of registered unemployed in the European Community topped the 10 million mark at the end of last year.

According to Eurostat, the EEC's statistical office, the number of unemployed in the Community, excluding Greece, advanced by 2.7 per cent in December bringing the Community's workforce without jobs to 9.2 per cent. Over 1981 the number out of work in the Community of the nine rose by just over 2.25 million.

Eurostat also detected a marked deterioration in male as opposed to female unemployment in recent months.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE EEC		
Country	Total	Per cent
Italy	2,145,900	9.6
Germany	1,703,900	6.5
France	2,014,400	8.9
Netherlands	473,900	9.1
Belgium	525,400	12.9
Luxembourg	2,028	1.3
United Kingdom	2,940,700	11.3
Ireland	141,100	11.5
Denmark	251,000	9.5

De Lorean leaves

Mr John De Lorean, chairman of the De Lorean car company, flew from London to New York yesterday, expecting to return next week to continue discussions with Mr James Prior, Secretary for Northern Ireland, about the company's future.

Mr De Lorean is understood to require Government guarantees for loans of about £5m, but the Government wants greater involvement in running the company.

Gloom to boom

Corby, Northants, was both a depressed area and a boom town, Mr Norman Lamont, Minister for Industry, said yesterday. Although 6,000 lost their jobs with the steelworks closure in 1979, 1,200 new jobs had since been created, with a 22 per cent jobless rate was now falling 2 per cent a year, he said.

Inflation slows

Inflation in the United States slowed to its lowest level in four years in 1981, rising by only 6.9 per cent as recession and unemployment cut heavily into all areas of consumer spending.

Bank acts to encourage lower interest rates

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent

The Bank of England, capitalizing on the revived enthusiasm in the gilt-edged market this week, is to launch its issue of index-linked government stock on Thursday.

By announcing only one new stock yesterday, and by avoiding a further issue of conventional short-dated stock, the Bank encouraged speculation that the authorities would like to see the present downward trend in interest rates extended further.

The Bank also made a further cut in its dealing rate in the bill market, the fifth reduction over the week. Yesterday's dealing rate for short-dated bills came down to 12% per cent, a full half per cent below the previous Friday's level.

At the weekly Treasury bill tender, aggressive bidding by the discount houses lowered the bill rate for new 90-day bills from 14.5 to 13.5 per cent.

Just how far and how quickly the authorities would now like to see interest rates fall seems likely to depend in part on what other countries do and how the pound behaves on foreign exchange markets.

Yesterday sterling dipped below \$1.87 immediately after the news that National Westminster had cut its base rate. But it recovered to close only 80 points down on the day at \$1.873 and rallied against leading European currencies.

The pound has held up extremely well in the face of the closing of the interest

rate advantages over New York, helped by the miners' vote not to strike.

But there remains uncertainty as to how the pound would behave if United States interest rates move to higher levels in the coming weeks.

Although there seems to be general agreement among the major European countries and the United States Government that interest rates need to come down, it is not at all clear that this view is shared by the Federal Reserve.

The money supply is now under better control, the pay round is viewed as going reasonably well and the underlying trend in inflation is expected to improve from the spring onwards.

This week's fall in interest rates has given a boost not only to gilts but also to shares. The FT 30 share index gained 8.1 to 567.2 yesterday, making a gain of 36 points over the five trading days.

The new index-linked stock will be smaller than previous issues at £750m nominal and will carry a coupon of 2%, as opposed to 2 per cent. It will also be longer, maturing in 2011, and will be partly paid.

The initial payment has been set at £35 per cent, the balance falling due on March 16. Potential subscribers are once again restricted to pension funds.

The two existing stocks yield about 2 1/2 per cent and 3 per cent respectively. There is not minimum tender price for the new stock.

Argyll pays £3m for Pricerite

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Mr James Gulliver's Argyll Foods group is buying the 67 Pricerite discount stores from BAT Stores for £3m. This is Argyll's first big expansion move since the attempted takeover of Lifford Holdings failed after an intervention by the Office of Fair Trading.

It is Argyll's Lo-Cost subsidiary that is buying the Pricerite chain, which is spread through the Midlands, the North-West and Wales. BAT has already sold the southern half of the chain to Fine Fare.

Lo-Cost has 107 stores which, like Pricerite, trade on a discount formula with a limited number of grocery lines.

Argyll is valuing Pricerite, which has an annual turnover of £34m, at £3.8m. There are 25 freehold and 42 leasehold stores and a distribution depot at Chester which is on a long lease. Trading depot stock will cost not more than another £3.5m, Argyll said.

The addition of Pricerite will bring the Lo-Cost annual turnover to more than £100m, Argyll believes.

The deal is a further indication of BAT's move towards larger grocery outlets. It is half-way through a three-year £60m development programme of its Mainpoint supermarkets and its international stores division plan to open five larger supermarkets this year.

But the future of some of the many smaller grocery outlets in the international chain of 450 outlets is still in doubt.



Mr Roy Collins: 47 years in the Stock Exchange

Departure of a wise man

By Michael Clark

The ranks of the "three wise men", jobbers at Wedd Durlacher Mordant, who make prices in some of the more unusual stocks quoted on the stock market, were depleted by one yesterday after the resignation of Mr Roy Collins, after 47 years.

But apart from sounding like characters from Robert Louis Stevenson's famous novel, Wedd's three wise men who work from the

"Treasure Island" pitch, deal in some of the lesser known stocks, shunned by their competitors, including the Whitstable Bay Oyster Company.

Mr Collins joined the Stock Exchange in 1935 as a blue button, dealers clerk, but owing to the war only became an authorised dealer in 1951. Just before becoming a member in 1961 he

joined Bone, Oldham, Bostant and Seal which later merged with Wedd Durlacher.

Mr Collins is unable to remember exactly how the three wise men were formed, but now in tends to spend more time at his home in Upminster, in Essex. However, he will not sever his links with the market entirely and may continue to deal from time to time.

RTZ snubs new approach for Ward

By Gareth David

Rio Tinto Zinc is refusing to increase its £136 bid for Thos. W. Ward, the cement group, after the directors of Ward said they would now be prepared to recommend a higher offer.

Ward made the move, in what has been a long and bitter takeover battle, after RTZ had taken its stake in the group to 41 per cent.

Ward's last-minute change of heart could open the way for RTZ to come back with a new offer with the agreement of the Ward Board and the 12-month Takeover Panel rule on renewed bids would then be avoided.

Rule 35 prevents a company such as RTZ making a new bid within 12 months and is designed to stop a company being put under siege, but it would automatically be suspended in the case of a recommended offer.

Sir Alistair Frame, chairman of RTZ, said yesterday that he was prepared to talk to Ward about anything but the price.

But Ward chairman Mr Peter Frost said that he was available for talks at any time and anticipated having further talks with RTZ before very long.

The directors of Ward said in a statement yesterday that it would be in the best interests of their employees and the Ward businesses if they were able to join the RTZ Group on an amicable basis.

Ward also requested RTZ to make public the terms it intends offering for Tunnel Holdings, another cement-making company in which Ward has a 42 per cent stake.

RTZ owns eight per cent of Tunnel so control of Ward would give RTZ control of the company. RTZ welcomed the group's acknowledgment that an amicable merger would be in the best interests of both businesses.

High Street trading hit by weather

By Frances Williams and Derek Harris

The weather largely put paid to retailers' hopes of a merry Christmas and prospects for 1982 do not look too happy either despite a surge of sales buying.

Official figures published yesterday show that business in Britain's high streets fell by 0.9 per cent in December, the second monthly drop in a row. The figures are seasonally adjusted and take into account the fact that trade normally rises in the run-up to Christmas, and again afterwards when the winter sales begin.

The appalling weather which disrupted pre-Christmas shopping and the start of the sales clearly depressed business. But the sluggish trade may also reflect a general downturn in consumer spending because of the squeeze on incomes.

Up to now spending has held up well. The Department of Trade suggests that the underlying level of trade has

remained roughly constant since last spring, with business over 1981 as a whole about 2 per cent up on 1980.

Despite the disappointing winter trade, business in the fourth quarter was up 1/2 per cent on the third quarter.

Despite the weather and the rail stoppages some stores are reporting surprisingly good volumes in their January sales. In the week ended January 16, when the weather was severe and the first of the two-day rail strikes took place, the 18 department stores of the John Lewis Partnership were 3 per cent up on the same week last year.

The Retail Consortium has had reports from more than half a dozen chains on better-than-expected sales in January. But the consortium still expects that if the Budget is neutral in its effect on consumer spending power, sales will decline this year.

Japanese may beat inventor to the market

Sony aims for mini disc first

By Bill Johnstone

Sony, the Japanese electronics group, is preparing to launch its compact audio disc this autumn in Britain possibly six months ahead of Philips, its European inventor.

The new disc which is about 4 inches in diameter is expected to be launched by Sony in Japan and in Britain simultaneously.

Philips, on whose technology the disc is based, is expected to bring out its own product in the Spring of 1983.

It was two years ago that Sony and the Dutch-based company Philips signed a collaboration agreement on the disc technology. Now Sony will be competing with Philips with products based on Philips' innovation.

The compact audio disc contains hundreds of small pits which represent pulses of sound information. A laser light source, replacing the conventional stylus scans the disc, and electronically con-



The compact sound disc

verts the information on the disc into high quality sound. Each disc will play on one side only for about an hour.

However, some industry observers feel that neither Sony nor Philips may realize its launch target. Philips has already experienced the problems of producing digital

discs for its video disc system which is scheduled to be launched in the United Kingdom this year. The discs for these systems are currently being manufactured at the company's Blackburn factory.

Sony's equipment and discs will initially be made in Japan. The Philips disc

players will be made in Hasselt, Belgium, and the discs pressed by Polygram in Germany. Secrecy surrounds the more commercial aspects of this new industry. However, the audio players are expected to cost for about £300 and the discs for slightly more than the price of an ordinary LP record.

But the battle for the video tape recording side of the industry continues among the three designers — Sony, JVC, Philips.

The video battle, however, is further complicated by the presence of video discs and the rivalry which may result between them and the recorders.

Heron in £46.4m bid for ACC

By Philip Robinson

Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Corporation launched a £46.4m takeover bid for Associated Communications Corporation yesterday just hours before his High Court action to prevent Australian financier Mr Robert Holmes a Court from gaining a quick victory over Lord Grade's old company.

Mr Holmes a Court's bid is £10m lower, but he has promises from ACC directors to accept it which would give him 63.3 per cent of the votes and control.

Last night Mr Ronson dropped a High Court action against the Independent Broadcasting Authority. He had been trying to prevent them approving transfers of shares from ACC directors to Mr Holmes a Court.

But he obtained an extension of Thursday's injunction restraining ACC directors from transferring the shares. Both sides return to the High Court on Monday where it is expected that ACC will argue it was in the best interests of the company to accept Mr Holmes a Court's bid because of its financial state.

The pension funds are expected to give evidence when the hearing resumes.

Meanwhile, ACC is going ahead with its attempts to get the IBA to approve the share transfers. It was thought last night that even though Mr Ronson's offer (85p for the non-voting shares and 340p for the voting shares) is higher, it has come too late.

Providing the share transfers are allowed, Mr Holmes a Court can win control directly as soon as his formal offer document is posted next week. He could have gained victory yesterday, had Mr Ronson's injunctions not been granted. Under new takeover rules which came into force at midnight on Thursday, he cannot count the crucial voting shares as his until the document is out. However, he still needs the permission of the Secretary of State before he owns the company.

On Monday, the Post Office pension fund, leading ten of ACC non-voting institutional shareholders, goes into court to see injunctions that the asset-rich entertainments to property group does not pay over cash or sell property to dismissed managing director Mr Jack Gill.

Lloyd's committee may expel member

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The Committee of Lloyd's is charged with the unprecedented step of trying to expel one of its members, Mr Reid Wilson, an underwriter who used to be connected with the Christopher Moran Group. It is the first time in the history of the London insurance market that the full weight of its archaic disciplinary powers has been brought into play.

A notice posted yesterday in the underwriting room at Lloyd's read: "In connexion with the arbitration pursuant to Section 29 of the Lloyd's Act 1871 against Mr E. R. P. Wilson, the arbitrators have found Mr Wilson guilty of acts and defaults discreditable to him as an underwriter. Accordingly, the Committee has resolved that a special meeting of members will be convened to decide whether Mr Wilson should be excluded from membership of one Society."

Four-fifths of those present need to vote in favour of expulsion and the date of the meeting will be fixed when the outcome of arbitration against Mr Christopher Moran, due to start on July 12, is known. Mr Moran, one-time managing director of Christopher Moran Group,

was acquitted of fraud charges at the Old Bailey just before Christmas along with fellow accused, Mr Derek Walker, a Lloyd's underwriter.

Lloyd's has no proceedings against Mr Derek Walker but has already taken disciplinary action against another former Christopher Moran Group executive, Mr James Redgrave, who was suspended for six months last year after being found guilty of discreditable conduct.

Mr Wilson was the underwriter of Syndicate 566 which was managed by Harman Hedley Agencies, a subsidiary of Christopher Moran, until it was sold to Reed Stenhouse Holdings last June. The Lloyd's proceedings relate to re-insurance transactions which took place between 1975 and 1979.

According to the 1980 report and accounts of Christopher Moran, it became apparent that in April 1979 the volume of business being undertaken by Syndicate 566 under the binding authority given by the Christopher Moran & Co broking subsidiary was likely to give rise to problems in complying with certain Lloyd's regulations.

MARKET SUMMARY

Equities shot in the arm

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 567.2 up 8.1
FT Gilt 84.15 up 0.22
FT All-share 323.39 up 40
Bargains 23,611

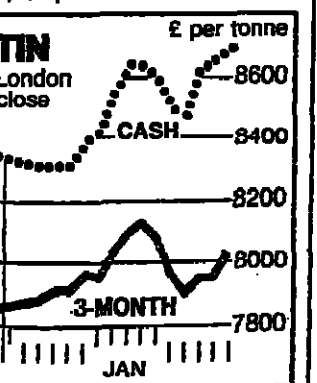
Cheaper money and the possibility of a mild Budget on March 9 provided a further shot in the arm for equities yesterday. The FT index, the top thirty shares ended the account 8.1 up at 567.2, a rise on the account of 35.8. This is the highest level the index has reached since September 3, when it closed at 588.0. Gilt were also in jubilant mood helped by the cut in bank base rates by 1/2 per cent to 14 per cent and the decision of the Government to restrict its fund-raising to one index-linked stock of £750m 2 1/2 per cent 2011 £35 paid. Longs closed the day with rises of up to 2 1/2 with shorts 1 1/2 higher. Only the existing index-linked stocks suffered losing up to 21.

The high turnover in equities was just the trigger for one seller of 2m Trusthouse Forte at 120p which was cleared without affecting the price 4p up at 124p.

Leadenhall Sterling was suspended at 85p at the company's request pending a further announcement.

COMMODITIES

On the London Metal Exchange cash tin set a new trading high of £8,690 per tonne for standard grade during morning dealings with the main feature heavy forward buying against physical demand. At the afternoon close standard grade cash was trading at £8,687.50 per tonne, a rise of £32.50 on the day, and three months was at £8,035 per tonne.



Trade sources in London said the International Cocoa Organization buffer stock manager has now bought sufficient cocoa from Ghana to complete the quota of 6,400 tonnes agreed for the country between cocoa producers in November, entailing purchases yesterday of 400 tonnes.

No price or shipment details were available, and there was no news of buffer stock buying from other origins.

World production of cocoa during 1982 (October to September) could be around 28,000 tonnes in deficit due to considerable reductions in West Africa supplies, trade sources said in Paris.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: The Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,823.36 up 85.85
Hong Kong: The Hang Seng Index 1,405.23 up 24.77

CURRENCIES

The dollar was firm on expectations of higher interest rates in the United States. Sterling slipped initially but rallied during the afternoon.

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.8730 down 80 points
Index 90.9 down 0.5
Fr. F 11.0000
Dfl 425
Dollar Index 109.3 up 0.4
DM 2.3067 up 102 points
Gold \$374.75 down \$3

MONEY MARKETS

The Bank provided assistance of £425m in response to a forecast shortage of £450m. Its Band 1 dealing rate was cut again, to 13% per cent.

Domestic rates: Base rates 14%
3-month interbank 14%-14%
Euro-currency rates: 3-month dollar 14%-14%
3-month DM 10%-10%
3-month Fr.F. 15%-15%

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

First signs of relief for overdraft borrowers

Bank borrowers, struggling under the burden of overdraft rates of anything up to 20 per cent, were granted a little relief yesterday when the High Street banks cut their base rates by 0.5 per cent, bringing down the cost of overdrafts to between 17 to 19 per cent.

Personal loan rates remain unchanged — at least for the moment, though at 20 to 21 per cent plus, they look expensive. At these rates the Bank of England's suspensions that homebuyers have been remortgaging their homes with the High Street banks, borrowing more than they need and spending the surplus on new cars and the like, are probably justified.

Who wants to borrow at 20 per cent when you can get a home loan for 15 per cent? The Bank of England has, however, administered a rap on the knuckles to the banks and told them to stop this type of lending.

Bank base rates have now come down a full 2 per cent from their October 1, 1981 peak of 16 per cent, but the building societies are showing no inclination to cut the mortgage rate.

None of the High Street banks have yet moved their home loan rates — though they are bound to be keeping a close eye on each other, and if one moves, the others will follow suit.

In the meantime, it looks as though there won't be any cut in the building societies' rates until the beginning of April.

Further reductions in interest rates are likely to be delayed until the Chancellor's Budget statement on March 9. The Building Societies Association Council meets immediately after — on Wednesday the 10th, 11th and 12th — and it might well take the opportunity here to announce a cut in rates.

In any case, the earliest a decision could be made is February 12 when the council next meets. "The cut in bank base rates will have no immediate effect on our rates, but the situation is being kept under review", was the predictable response from the BSA.

The building societies will probably want a breathing space too, to improve the flow of funds into their coffers.

They have been having a rough time attracting deposits — last November's net receipts were a disastrous £65 million, compared with the high for the year of £446 million in January 1981.

They picked up to £203 million last December and are expected to do even better this month when interest gets added to accounts.

City pundits are expecting

bank base rates to be down to around 12 per cent by the end of 1982, so it might be a good idea for investors to be thinking slightly longer term. The building societies are offering very attractive rates at the moment, but this seems unlikely to last for much longer.

Local authority yearling bonds (available from a bank or stockbroker) are paying 15.25 per cent and this is fixed for the whole year. Slightly less than the equivalent return on a building society extra interest account which to a basic rate taxpayer is worth 15.3 per cent, it is worth considering if you are not going to need your money for at least 12 months.

Local Authority "Town Hall" bonds (available direct from the local authority) are offering 14.75 per cent for 3 and 4 year investments, but the longer the term, the greater the gamble.

If, as expected, Mrs Thatcher starts to prime the electoral pumps with tax-giveaways at Budget time, this will inevitably fuel inflation. On an annual basis this is already running at 12 per cent which makes index linked National Savings Certificates look a better bet over the one and two year term. The return at 12 per cent plus, is tax free.

Lorna Bourke

AFTER TAX RETURN ON INVESTMENTS

	Non Taxpayer	30%	40%	50%	60%
Bank 7 Day Deposit	11.5	8.0	6.9	5.7	4.6
	12.0	8.4	7.2	6.0	4.8
Building Society Ordinary Accts.	9.75	9.75	8.3	6.9	5.5
Building Society Extra Interest Accounts	10.75	10.75	9.1	7.6	6.1
NSB Investment Acc.	15.0	10.5	9.0	7.5	6.0
Money Funds	14.5	10.1	8.7	7.2	5.8

Overdrafts: 17-19 per cent.
Bank Personal Loans: 20.7% to 21.8% over a two year term.

* NatWest, Lloyds, Midland
† Barclays
‡ The large building societies pay 1 per cent over the ordinary share rate on Extra Interest Accounts — smaller societies may pay more.

Investment
Beckman
puts his
trust in
the future

Regular listeners to his early morning financial broadcasts on LBC will be astonished to learn that Mr Bob Beckman, London's most colourful investment guru, has just launched his own unit trust.

To those acquainted with Mr Beckman's apocalyptic views, this is like Michael Foot opening up shop on Savile Row. Mr Beckman it was who last September invited the doomsday Wall Street pundit Mr Joseph Granville on to the radio to exhort us all to sell sell sell — in vast quantities.

Mr Beckman's own views, as expressed in his weekly newsletter "Investors' Bulletin" — he describes it as an "esoteric publication" are no less gloomy. Equities are no good, property values are going to drop, we are all heading for a massive deflation. So the birth of the Beckman International Capital Accumulator (BICA) unit trust this week must surprise even his most devoted followers.

It is a capital fund aimed primarily at the higher rate taxpayer. It is a conventional unit trust with a minimum investment of £1,000 and a low front end load of 2 per cent. "I still hate unit trusts", says an unabashed



An investment guru at work — Bob Beckman who broadcasts his doomsday investment advice to listeners of LBC

Mr B, but this is a not a rip-off fund. It is going to be run the way a unit trust ought to be run. We are paying no commissions at all — which is why the charges are low. We are not advertising either. I want it to be judged on its performance."

For the moment Mr Beckman's financial strategy is geared to fixed interest investments — American Government bonds and low

coupon gilts. "It is decidedly not speculative. It is a safe vehicle to maximize capital in a tax-efficient way. I am not making any promises but a return of 20 per cent seems a reasonable target this year."

Apart from his new fund, where he says he will be applying some novel techniques, "I will have the accounts scratching their heads for years". Mr Beckman still sees little on the

financial horizon to be pleased about.

But cheer up folks. Mr Granville, the Savanarola of the stockmarkets, is now predicting that the Dow Jones will crash to 500 this month — which leaves him just one week and a half in which to be right.

Margaret Drummond

In brief
Loan link
offers tax
advantage

Birmingham Building Society is the third to launch a house purchase package linked to a self-employed pension scheme — a very attractive proposition for those who pay tax at 50 per cent or more.

Like the Guardian Building Society, Birmingham is prepared to link its loan to any self-employed pension scheme from a reputable company — Leamington Spa is tied to Scottish Provident's scheme.

The advantage of linking a loan to a self-employed pension scheme rather than the more conventional with-profits endowment policy, is that tax relief at the borrower's top rate is allowable on pension premiums, whereas life policies attract tax relief at only 15 per cent.

You don't have to be self-employed to benefit from a self-employed pension plan. If you are a non-pensionable employee (that is, your company does have an occupational pension scheme) you are eligible for tax relief on your pension contributions in the same way as the self-employed.

Scarcely loans
Mortgages could become scarcer by the summer, warns Brian Holmes, chief general manager of the Provincial Building Society. "Young people — especially first time buyers who don't face the problem of selling a house, should arrange their mortgages as soon as possible," he says.

Building societies have plenty of funds available at the moment, but if the Government continues to siphon off money from personal savers through its aggressive marketing of National Savings Securities, "there could clearly be a mortgage shortage by mid-year", said Mr Holmes.

And Peter Wilkinson, chief executive of the Amalgamated Building Society, is equally critical of the Government. "The coming year is unlikely to be any less competitive than 1981, and it is too much to expect that the Government — now it has discovered the easy charms of indexed bonds — will not seek to raise more money in this way. Sooner or later the Government will have to come to terms with the potentially serious effect it may have on funds for the housing market."

Charging less
Following the decision made by Access four weeks ago to reduce the maximum service charge rate for traders, they are now extending this reduction to petrol retailers.

The maximum service charge rate will be 2½ per cent and this will particularly benefit small traders and petrol retailers in rural areas. Garages were some of the first traders to start surcharging credit card transactions but, in the past few weeks, most garages have ceased to discriminate in price between cash and credit card payments.

Higher yield
Anglia has increased its rate by a half per cent to a guaranteed 2 per cent over the ordinary share rate on its three-year high income bond. The bond will now yield, at current rates of interest, 14½ per cent net with interest paid half-yearly. The bond was introduced only last October along with a six-year bond which guarantees 14 per cent over the ordinary share rate. Investors may withdraw all or part of their money before the three year period expires by giving three months notice, during which time no interest is paid on the amount to be withdrawn.

Finance for industry
Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 13½ per cent; 5-6 years, 13½ per cent; 7 years, 13½ per cent; 8-9 years, 14 per cent; 10 years, 14½ per cent. Further information from FFI 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-528 7822).

Finance house deposits
(UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of tax. For sums of £10,000 or more: 1 month, 13½ per cent; 3 months, 14 per cent; 6 months, 15 per cent; 12 months, 14 per cent.

Foreign currency deposits*
Interest paid without deduction of tax.

	Call	7-days notice
US dollar	11 p.c.	11½ p.c.
Yen	11 p.c.	11½ p.c.
De Mark	10 p.c.	10½ p.c.
French Franc	10 p.c.	11 p.c.
Swiss Franc	p.c.	½ p.c.

*Rates quoted by Midland Bank — other banks may differ.

Assessing your policy's value

Insurers are expecting claims from householders running into tens of millions of pounds following the floods and arctic weather. Claims for burst-pipe damage are expected to reach record levels.

But a recent survey of 50,000 householders revealed that

10 per cent of householders were dissatisfied with the way their insurance company handled such claims, and 20 per cent received only a proportion of their original claim.

"One in five policyholders is either inadequately insured or failed to convince the insurance company loss

adjuster of the merits of their claim," commented David Ritchie, chief executive of loss assessors, Balcombes.

Loss assessors? Few policyholders have heard of loss assessors, and if they have, most confuse them with loss adjusters — a different breed entirely. Loss assessors are the paid representatives of the insurance company, sent along to whom you make a claim, to establish the validity of the losses you say you have suffered.

A loss assessor is retained by the policyholder on a percentage basis, to represent the homeowner's interest and ensure that the claim is properly completed. "What we do is obtain the maximum possible settlement within the terms of the policy," says David Ritchie.

Balcombes, like other loss assessors, charges the policyholder a percentage of recovered losses. In other words, if the insurance company refuses to pay out, the loss assessor gets no fee.

For household claims Balcombes would expect the amount involved to be over £1,000 before they would be prepared to act, but with many householders suffering burst pipes and water damage to carpets and furniture the damage can soon exceed this minimum.

For claims of over £1,000, Balcombes fee would be 10 per cent of recovered losses, declining as the size of the claim increases. They estimate that their average charge (though this would largely be for commercial claims) is 4 to 5 per cent.

"Most insurance policy small print is almost indecipherable to the layman, but it is a binding contract. And it is this small print which is of paramount importance to making a claim," says Mr Ritchie.

He complains that the general public is led to believe that the loss adjuster sent along by the insurance company is impartial. "Their function should be clearly defined in the minds of the public. When it comes to a big claim, the adjuster tends to favour the insurer. It is a basic tenet of the insurance world that all major claims result in negotiated settlements."

Why hand over some of your claim damages to a loss assessor when you can fill in the claim yourself? Householders frequently have no idea of the true value of their belongings, says Mr Ritchie, and therefore do not claim enough.

Also many are surprised to learn precisely what can be claimed — the loss assessor with his specialist knowledge can interpret the small print for the policyholder.

Over 150 firms belong to the Institute of Public Loss Assessors which will provide the name and address of a local loss assessor on request. Their address is 14 Red Lion Street, Chesham, Buckinghamshire. Telephone: Chesham 782342.

Tougher on dealers

Greater protection for investors is on its way with the publication this week of proposals for tough new measures to control the activities of licensed dealers in securities.

The new rules, drawn up by the Department of Trade, will apply only to the 350 licensed dealers, but there is hope that the government will bend to public pressure and extend the provisions of the new regulations to eventually cover all investment advisers.

The main requirements of the new regulations are that clients' money must be kept separate from that of the investment adviser.

In addition, licensed dealers will be required to show certificated proof of comprehensive indemnity and fidelity insurance which would give clients full protection in the event of default.

The Government, for reasons that are not at all clear, seems very reluctant to act to protect investors — in spite of considerable pressure for reform from a number of City institutions. On Tuesday, Professor Laurence Gower of the Department of Trade will be publishing a preliminary discussion paper on investors' protection and it is hoped that he will make it clear that urgent action is necessary if more defaults resulting in losses to investors are to be avoided.

Local authority town hall bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). Best offers: 1 year, Kingston-upon-Hull 13½ per cent; 2-3 years, Swansea, 14½ per cent; 4 years, Knowlsey 14½ per cent; 5 years, West Derby 15 per cent; 6-7 years, Hereford and Worcester 15½ per cent; 8-10 years, West Derby 15½ per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-828 7825, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24808.

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts — interest 5 per cent, first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Account — 15 per cent, interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £20,000.

National Savings index-linked certificates
Maximum investment £5,000, return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail prices index, 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 certificates purchased in February 1977, £167.61 including 4 per cent bonus.

Local authority yearling bonds
12-month fixed rate investments, interest 15½ per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Finance for industry
Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 13½ per cent; 5-6 years, 13½ per cent; 7 years, 13½ per cent; 8-9 years, 14 per cent; 10 years, 14½ per cent. Further information from FFI 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-528 7822).

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Swiss Franc p.c. ½ p.c.

*Rates quoted by Midland Bank — other banks may differ.

INVEST IN

ENERGY

First
Public Offer
of
National
Westminster
Energy Trust

We all know that the world economy is in a state of recession. Despite all the remedial action being taken on both sides of the Atlantic there have as yet been few signs of recovery.

There are still very few major industrial companies that can report favourably upon their performance over the last year.

A direct consequence of this stagnation is a reduced demand for oil. The oil glut and the resultant stockpiling of oil is proving very expensive due to high interest rates. In turn oil companies throughout the world are significantly undervalued — as can be seen in a recent spate of take-over bids in the USA.

However, this gloomy scenario does have its optimistic side. In the view of the investment managers the depressed state of the oil industry means that shares in oil companies now offer remarkably good value for money. Further, the temporary retrenchment in the industry has been paralleled by increasing research into alternative energy sources. This area offers fruitful long-term investment potential. These two factors lie at the heart of the launching of the National Westminster Energy Trust.

The new National Westminster Energy Trust

The Nat West Unit Trust Managers believe that recovery is on its way in the oil sector and that now is the time for investors seeking a strong capital growth from their unit trusts. As the oil industry recovers its strength so will oil extraction technology show a commensurate resurgence. Similarly, the general upturn in demand will further stimulate research and development in the exploitation of alternative energy sources. These include Coal, Nuclear, Shale Oil, Solar, Wind and Tidal Energy. In short, the whole field of energy has enormous potential for the wise, long-term investor. It is for this type of investor that the new trust has been devised with its prime objective of capital growth through world wide investment in the energy sector. Consequently income will be of minor consideration.

Trusts that have been established recently by the National Westminster Unit Trust Managers have demonstrated steady growth as instanced by the summary of their performance in "Money Management". The recent launching of specialist trusts such as the Smaller Companies Trust, which have the same investment philosophy behind them as the Energy Trust have performed remarkably well. So now is the time to lay a foundation for the improved economic climate of the future.

National Westminster Energy Trust at a fixed price of 50p per unit

Estimated gross starting yield of £1.45 p.a. (This is equivalent to a net yield of £1.02 p.a.)
Send to National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Limited, 161 Cheapside, London EC2V 6EU.
Telephone Enquiries: 01-606 6060, extension: 2479.

I/Wish to invest £ (minimum investment of £500) in National Westminster Energy Trust at a fixed price of 50p per unit.
I/Wish to enclose my/our remittance payable to National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Limited (offer closes 4 February, 1982).

A proven record: Investment
Management by County Bank

The investments will be professionally managed by County Bank, the wholly owned merchant banking subsidiary of the National Westminster Bank Group. County Bank has a highly successful track record through its active direction of investment, pension and unit trust funds and currently has over £2 billion under its management.

How to invest now

Simply fill in the coupon below, or alternatively take it to any branch of National Westminster Bank. The minimum investment is £500. This is equivalent to 1,000 units in the trust at the price of 50p. This price is fixed until 4 February which is the closing date for receipt of new applications by the Unit Trust Managers.

Distribution of income from units may be re-invested in the trust. In view of the specialised nature of this trust which aims primarily for capital appreciation, the Managers strongly recommend to investors that income distributions should be automatically re-invested in the purchase of further units.

You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

Additional Information

Applications will not be acknowledged but certificates will be issued within 42 days.
Distributions of net income will be made half yearly on 30 March and 30 September and the first distribution of income for investments made now will be on 30 September 1982.

The offer price of 50p per unit gives an estimated gross starting yield of £1.45 p.a. (This is equivalent to a net yield of £1.02 p.a.)
After the close of this offer, units can always be bought at the prevailing offer price. The current offer and bid prices and estimated gross yield will be published daily in the press.

If you wish you can buy units through your own bank, stockbroker, solicitor or accountant. Remuneration is payable to qualified agents and the rates are available on request. The offer price of units includes an initial charge of 9%.

Thereafter a half yearly charge of 0.375% plus VAT of the value of the Trust is deducted from the gross income of the Trust to cover administration costs, although the Trust Deed permits this to be increased to 0.5% + VAT.

To sell units simply return your certificate(s) duly endorsed and you will receive the cash value within 10 days, based on the bid price ruling on the day of receipt. The Managers are empowered under the terms of the trust deed to invest in traded call options.

The Management company is National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Limited. The Directors are: Vincent Saddon, T. D. Chairman, A. H. A. Dibbs, J. F. G. Emms, P. A. Giff, A. R. Green, M. H. Love, J. B. Sheriff, L. E. Thomas, C. N. Villiers and J. H. Webb. National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Ltd is a member of the Unit Trust Association, Investment Managers: County Bank Limited, (J. B. Sheriff).

The trustee is Royal Exchange Assurance. This is a "wider range" trustee investment. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

Surname: Mr/Ms/Miss
First Full Name(s)
Address

I am/We are over the age of 18.
Signature(s) Date

Tick here for automatic re-investment of income ☐
For office use only: National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Limited, Registered in England, No 90710, Registered Office: 41 Lombury, London EC2P 2BE.

EDITED BY LORNA BOURKE



Malcolm Block who has the weighty responsibility of running M & G's Australasian Fund which many Times readers have backed as the winning unit trust for 1982

The Times-Money Programme Unit Trust Competition

This is your last opportunity to enter The Times - Money Programme Unit Trust Competition. Today is the final publication of the entry form and the closing date is next Saturday, January 30. After that we will be revealing our experts' choices.

Entrants have some very decided views on unit trust selection and their choices for the best performing trust in 1982 reveal 22 strong interest in investment. A high proportion have opted for a specialist trust, an obvious choice since they tend to be volatile performers and generally appear either at the top or bottom of the tables. Most popular choice to date has been M & G's

Australasian Trust, top performer in 1980 but languishing at the very bottom of the charts. M & G's American Recovery Fund is running a close second.

There is heavy support for the Far East fund, specifically Crescent Tokyo, Gartmore's Far East, and Japan & General trusts, Hill Samuel's Far East fund and Save & Prosper's South East Asia Trust.

Gold bugs have gone for Britannia's Gold and General Fund, the only British unit trust with a significant holding of gold shares (unit trusts are not allowed to invest in gold direct). Prizes in each category - General, Under 18 and Professional Investment Adviser

are £100 worth of unit trusts of your choice for the winner, with £50 and £25 for each of the runners-up. The competition is being run jointly with BBC 2 Television's Money Programme. Entrants will be appearing on television to explain how they made their choice.

Entries in the under 18 category have been a bit thin so far, but there has been a request from a school for 30 entry forms which can be obtained from BBC TV's Money Programme as well as through the pages of The Times. Only one entrant has been disqualified for sending in a photocopied entry form

We usually publish unit trust performance statistics on a sector basis - financial trusts, income trusts and so on. To help readers who are entering the unit trust competition make their choice, the figures this month will not be split into sectors, and it should be easier to see which trusts performed best overall.

The tables show the value on January 4, 1982, of £100 invested 12 months ago (column A) and two years ago (column B) net income reinvested and based on offer to the public. Figures supplied by Planned Savings Magazine, 150-152 Caledonian Road, London N1 9RD.

	A	B	A	B
Hill Samuel Far East	155.7	146.2	A-Hambro Equity Inc	115.6140.5
Arbuthnot East & Int	146.2203.2	143.8	Nelstar International	115.6
Arbuthnot Tokyo	143.8203.6	140.9	Stewart Brit Capital	115.4146.2
S&P/Japan Growth	140.9187.6	138.5	Stewart Japan Cos & Re	115.4146.2
Arbuthnot Smaller Cos	138.5160.7	137.6	A-Hambro Elec & Ind	115.4150.5
Gartmore Japan	137.6197.6	137.4	Pearl Trust	115.2141.1
Chiefman Pacific	137.4193.6	137.4	Discretionary	115.146.9
Midland Drayton Japan	137.4217.3	137.4	Hill Samuel/Inc	115.1153.7
Chiefman Far Eastern	137.4193.0	137.4	Chiefman Cos & Re	115.1153.7
T. Japan & General	137.3179.7	137.4	M&G/Trustee	115.0139.8
Chiefman Growth	137.3179.7	137.4	Tower Inc & Growth	114.9138.7
Bishopsgate Internat.	137.0168.9	137.4	Britannia Inc & Growth	114.9128.1
M&G/American Rec.	136.0165.2	137.4	Gartmore Far Eastern	114.9187.1
Perpetual West Smaller Cos	136.0149.7	137.4	Nat West Financial	114.7151.7
Perpetual Income	135.8150.9	137.4	NP Growth	114.6144.2
Chiefman Foreign	135.8150.9	137.4	Chiefman Brit Hyd	114.5127.8
S&P/Financial	132.8165.3	137.4	Target Inc & Growth	114.4
Gartmore/Endeavour	128.0185.5	137.4	M&G/General	114.4144.9
Chiefman Japan	127.9156.4	137.4	Britannia Japan Perf	114.4147.4
Chiefman European	127.9156.4	137.4	Chiefman Japan Mly	114.4147.4
Chiefman Oceas	127.8172.0	137.4	Equity Capital	114.3148.8
Chiefman Inter Asia	127.2156.5	137.4	Franklin Capital	114.3141.6
Gartmore/Ldn&Brusel	126.9143.4	137.4	Hill Samuel/Hill Yield	114.2125.1
Chiefman Sml Cos	125.8139.9	137.4	Nelstar Hi Inc	114.2104.9
Target Smaller Sits	125.8135.7	137.4	Chiefman Growth	114.1145.3
S&S Income	125.8135.7	137.4	Barclaybank Ex Inc	114.0129.7
Gartmore/Endeavour	125.8174.5	137.4	Equity & Law Gen	114.0147.7
Chiefman American	124.8157.8	137.4	L&I Income	114.0134.4
Chiefman U.S.	124.6	137.4	Bridge Amer & Gen	114.0126.7
Chiefman Mid Inc Equity	124.6	137.4	Chiefman Growth	113.9126.7
Chiefman Nth America	124.5183.1	137.4	Gartmore High Inc	113.8129.2
Chiefman Hamb. Osea Earn'g	124.2159.3	137.4	GT/Wickmore	113.8153.3
Chiefman Far Eastern	123.9143.7	137.4	T&S Growth	113.7126.6
Chiefman Growth	123.9143.7	137.4	Chiefman Trst	113.7126.6
Chiefman Nth Amer'c'n	123.8152.1	137.4	GT Far East & Gen	113.7217.3
Chiefman Trust	123.5201.9	137.4	A-Hambro High Yield	113.6131.4
Chiefman Worldwide Bnd	123.5122.2	137.4	Abbey Growth	113.5148.6
Chiefman Growth	123.5122.2	137.4	Chiefman Cos	113.5148.6
Chiefman Growth	123.5122.2	137.4	Nat West Extra Inc	113.5117.1
Chiefman Growth	123.5122.2	137.4	Bridge Internat Rec	113.5159.4
Chiefman Growth	123.5122.2	137.4	Henderson/Exp & Ass	113.5141.4
Chiefman Growth	123.5122.2	137.4	Chiefman Growth	113.5141.4
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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End Feb 12. § Contrango Day, Feb 15. Settlement Day, Feb 22
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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Cricket

Even an orange is reduced to pulp as Botham opens his shoulders

From Richard Shepperson
Indore, Jan 22

Jan Botham surpassed any thing even he has achieved before in his spectacular career when he hit with ferocious power to score a dozen in 22 from 55 balls against Central Zone here today.

Botham struck seven sixes on what is a large ground and 16 fours. They were all hit with a timing and brute strength that left the fielders round the edge of the field helpless.

Getting too hot, he attracted for a hundred. Central Zone's batsman was far from strong but this was a memorable piece of batting by Botham. It was an innings motivated by a desire to score a dozen in 22 from 55 balls. He had not been seen to play in this relatively unimportant fixture. He had also been confident and free in England, had lost two wickets to controversial umpiring decisions.

From the start Botham took chances with a fiercely lofted driver and he continued to ride his back. He gave two possible chances and several times the ball dropped safely between two fielders who left the catch to catch other. Mistakes were made with Botham opening his shoulders to almost every ball and hammering it with a physical force that can seldom have been equalled.

Time and time again Botham sent the ball soaring to enormous heights and his leg-side sides went into the crowd. His first 50 came in 34 minutes from 28 balls and he reached 102, out of 110 scored, in 50 minutes from 38 balls. When he was out, Botham had hit three twos and ten singles in addition to his boundaries and had failed to score from only 19 balls.

Lloyd is fit again and full of fighting talk

Melbourne, Jan 22.—Clive Lloyd, the West Indies batsman, has recovered from influenza and will play in at least one of the two World Cup matches against Australia here this weekend. He will replace the fast bowler Malcolm Marshall. He said his fitness would be a relief to both matches.

"We want to wrap up the series as quickly as possible," he said. "We have played very well so far, considering our injuries." Lloyd, who has scored 563 for an average of 51.86 in the one-day matches against Australia, added: "I have had a few days' complete rest and I'm over the virus which hit me in Sydney and Brisbane. I'm as keen as the rest of the boys to win this final series to a win and a draw."

The Australian captain Greg Chappell said earlier this week that he expected a better team than his own. "But if we can go to Sydney after this weekend and win one win that would be a great boost to our confidence," he said. "We have a good record against West Indies in Sydney and I think we have a good chance in these finals."

Football

A milestone for Mills at Luton

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

A year ago almost to the day, a draw at Everton put Ipswich Town at the top of the first division. Hopes of a treble crown, including the FA Cup, were only to fade away in April. But from the ashes of their last domestic season, their phoenix has slowly risen again and now stands at the head of the championship queue, in the semi-finals of the League Cup and seen capable of making more progress in the FA Cup.

Today Ipswich visit Luton Town, the clear leaders of the second division, for a fourth round tie that marks another milestone in the career of Mick Mills. He made his first appearance in the year of England's World Cup triumph, 1966, at the age of 17. Three years later he was out to be a record breaker," he said and yet that is Ipswich's aim. Victory over Luton today would be their ninth in a row, the best run in the club's history. Although Thibsen, absent for almost two months, has recovered from a calf injury, Ipswich should be unchanged.

Mills, therefore, will continue to lead his determination in mid-field rather than at full back.

The threat to Aberdeen

Scottish football returns to normal this weekend after all the bad weather and for Aberdeen the return to competitive action promises to be a nerve-racking occasion. Aberdeen, a good bet at 6-1 to win the Scottish Cup, will be their ninth in a row, the best run in the club's history. Although Thibsen, absent for almost two months, has recovered from a calf injury, Ipswich should be unchanged.

Mills, therefore, will continue to lead his determination in mid-field rather than at full back.

Weekend fixtures

FA Cup	
Third round	Carlisle v Huddersfield
Fourth round	
Blackpool v QPR	Brighton v Oxford Utd
Bristol City v Aston Villa	Chelsea v Wrexham
Crystal Palace v Bolton	Gillingham v WBA
Hereford v Leicester	Luton v Ipswich
Manchester City v Coventry	Newcastle v Grimsby
Norwich v Doncaster	Shrewsbury v Burnley
Tottenham v Leeds	Watford v West Ham Utd
Sunderland v Liverpool	
First division	
Nottm F v Notts Co	Southampton v Arsenal
Stoke v Manchester Utd	Wolverhampton v Everton
Second division	
Blackburn Rovers v Rotherham	Charlton v Cambridge Utd
Derby v Oldham	Orient v Barnsley
Third division	
Brentford v Fulham	Chester v Bristol R
Cherterfield v Newport	Lincoln v Portsmouth
Preston v Millwall	Reading v Plymouth
Southend v Walsall	Wimbledon v Swindon
Fourth division	
Colchester v Hartlepool	Crewe v Bournemouth
Darlington v Aldershot	Hull City v Torquay
Manfield v Bury	Roche v Peterborough
Scotthorpe v Northampton	Wigan Ath. v Bradford City
York City v Tranmere	
Scottish second division	
Aberdeen v Brechin	Albion v Brechin
Montrose v Stenhousemuir	Stranraer v Cowdenbeath
Stranraer v Cowdenbeath	Stranraer v Cowdenbeath
Basketball	
National League: Final	London v New York
National League: First round	London v New York
National League: Second round	London v New York
Lacrosse	
First Division: Ashtown v Old	

Rowing



First and double first: Susan Brown and Boris Rankov.

A First in Greats—and now for the great first

By Jim Ralton

Rowing at St. Hugh's, will try to make history this year by becoming the first oarsman to row in five winning Boat Races. The first was the Oxford crew of all time, who won the Thames Traditions in 1974 and finished runners-up in a pulsating race in the national championships.

Last year Rankov set in what is arguably the best Oxford crew of all time, who won the Thames Traditions in 1974 and finished runners-up in a pulsating race in the national championships.

Rankov, who achieved a First in Greats and is researching Roman archaeology for a Doctor of Philosophy, has competed in the Putney to Mortlake event six times. In 1974 and 1975 he completed for Isis against Goldie.

Motor racing

S African GP goes on but power is not at the wheel

From Keith Botsford
Johannesburg, Jan 22

The drivers at the troubled South African Grand Prix have been given until 9.30 this morning to show up and drive the first race. A suspension, possible dismissal, law suits and the wrath of all Nine o'clock came and went and no drivers arrived at the circuit.

An uneasy silence fell over the pits as teams totted up their probable losses. Enough money to break contracts and a cloud over the whole season.

At this point Didier Pironi, the driver's representative, Jean Marie Balestre, the president of FISA, and Bernard Ecclestone, president of FOCA, were still locked in a dispute. Pironi said the drivers' demands at issue were the formula one committee's new super licence and that he had a secret guarantee of these demands being met in full when the drivers' meeting the formula one committee was convened in the next fortnight. "We have won on all our demands," he said.

Max Mosley, the barrister who represents FOCA, said: "There is no agreement, secret or otherwise, between us and the committee of the formula one committee and to examine the drivers' demands. The drivers have come out of this meeting with their faces grey. They have alienated their employers and lost everyone's respect. They are just stupid children playing at games they do not understand and they will pay for it."

All this contention did nothing to help focus attention on the forthcoming race. At 2.10 under a cloudy and unhelpful sky which eventually produced light rain the first race started. The only official qualifying practice, René Arnoux, of Renault, surprisingly placed his turbo on pole.

At over 6,000ft the turbo has almost a 20 per cent power advantage and this was used to place the turbo-charged cars on the first three rows, with Piquet (Brabham), Villeneuve (Ferrari), Patrese (Brabham), Prost (Renault) and Pironi (Ferrari) behind.

The best that a Ford-powered car could do was done by Rosberg and Reutemann, of Williams, who qualified in fourth and fifth places. The highly promising Italian Tyrrell driver, completed the first 10.

At the start, the strike leader, former champion and before his none too restful night among the leaders in testing, he took a curve too long and went into the catch fence, only to return and put in a good enough lap to qualify at thirteenth on the grid.

Not Rosberg's day. But does Rosberg know it was his day? He is everybody's target to everyone else?

Practice times: 1. R. Arnoux (Renault), 1:38.6; 2. P. Piquet (Brabham), 1:39.1; 3. A. Villeneuve (Ferrari), 1:39.1; 4. J. Patrese (Brabham), 1:39.1; 5. D. Pironi (Ferrari), 1:39.1; 6. J. Rosberg (Williams), 1:40.1; 7. A. Reutemann (Williams), 1:40.1; 8. M. Alboreto (Tyrrell), 1:40.1; 9. N. Piquet (Tyrrell), 1:40.1; 10. B. Reutemann (Williams), 1:40.1; 11. J. Pironi (Ferrari), 1:40.1; 12. J. Villeneuve (Ferrari), 1:40.1; 13. J. Patrese (Brabham), 1:40.1; 14. J. Rosberg (Williams), 1:40.1; 15. A. Reutemann (Williams), 1:40.1; 16. M. Alboreto (Tyrrell), 1:40.1; 17. N. Piquet (Tyrrell), 1:40.1; 18. B. Reutemann (Williams), 1:40.1; 19. J. Pironi (Ferrari), 1:40.1; 20. J. Villeneuve (Ferrari), 1:40.1; 21. J. Patrese (Brabham), 1:40.1; 22. J. Rosberg (Williams), 1:40.1; 23. A. Reutemann (Williams), 1:40.1; 24. M. Alboreto (Tyrrell), 1:40.1; 25. N. Piquet (Tyrrell), 1:40.1; 26. B. Reutemann (Williams), 1:40.1; 27. J. Pironi (Ferrari), 1:40.1; 28. J. Villeneuve (Ferrari), 1:40.1; 29. J. 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Edited by Peter Davalle

1.00 Gel

1.00 Getting the Most out of Your Body (4) the Mole, **1.00** Sport
2.00 Football; **Cricket**; **Rugby League**;
2.00 Union; **Racing**; **5.00** Country
Greats in **Country**; **7.00** Best
The **Record**; **7.30** Big Band Special; **8.00**
Saturday Night is the Night; **10.00**
Mercury (in series); **11.03**
Pete Murray with weather and
motoring information; **2.00-5.00** You
and the Night and the Music!

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2; **7.00** Playground;
8.00 Tony Blackburn; **9.00** Paul
Power; **12.00** My Top 12; **1.00** Adrian
Juste; **2.00** A King in New York;
2.05 Paul Gambaccini; **4.00** Walters;
Weekly; **5.00** Rock On! **6.30** in

[illegible]

As London excepted: Starts 9.00 am
Cartoon. 9.10 Wheelies and the
Chopper Bunch. 9.40-10.30

5.15 News. 5.17-5.45 Mr Merlin:
 Sorcerer in twelfth century San
 Francisco. 7.45-8.45 Magnum. 11.50
 House Calls. 12.20 am Three's
 Company. 12.25 Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: Starts 9.35-10.30 am Thunderbirds; 5.15-5.45 Mr Merlin; Sorcerer in twentieth century San Francisco; 7.45-8.45 Marmalade; 10.50 The Great Gatsby; 11.15 The Queen's Park Football Club and its ground, Hampden Park; 11.30 Closes down.

SCOTTISH

As London except: Starts 9.15 am Rocky the Viking; 9.40-10.30 Thunderbirds; 10.55 Mr Merlin; Sorcerer in twentieth century San Francisco; 11.50 Late Call; 11.55 What's His Name?; The Fox Ladies; 2.20 am Closes down.

HTV WEST

As London except: Starts 9.10 am The Adventures of Black Beauty; 9.30-10.20 The Queen's Park Football Club; 10.55 Mr Merlin; Sorcerer in twentieth century San Francisco; 11.15-11.45 Marmalade; 11.50 Closes down.

Radio 1
 10.00 Tony Blackburn, 10.00 Noel
 11.00 Jimmy Savile, 3.00
 Radio B15, 5.00 Top 40, 7.00 The
 Road Producers, 7.10 Sound of
 Jazz, 10.00 Close.

World Service

10.00 BBC service can be received in
 Western Europe on medium waves (648 kHz,
 653 kHz) at the following times (GMT) - 6.00
 Newsweek, 7.00 World News, 7.09 News
 from Britain, 7.15 From Our Own
 Correspondents, 7.30 Classical Record
 Review, 7.45 The End of the Affair, 8.00
 News, 8.09 Reflections, 8.15 The

2000 Years, 9.00 World News, 9.00
 Letter of the Week, 9.15 People and
 Places, 9.45 Sports Review, 10.15
 News, 10.45 News, 11.00 Sunday
 Service, 11.00 World News, 11.09
 about Britain, 11.19 Letter from America,
 11.29 News, 11.39 News, 11.45
 News, 1.00 World News, 1.09 Community
 News, 1.15 News, 1.45 Story, 1.55
 News, 2.00 News, 2.09
 San Diego Request Show,

3.00 Smash of the Day: The Mary Lark 3.00
 Letter Newsweek 3.15 Concert Hall 4.00
 News, 4.15 News, 4.25 News, 4.35
 Own Correspondent, 4.35 Financial
 News, 4.45 News, 4.55 News, 5.00
 News, 5.09 America 5.00 World News, 5.09
 Community, 5.15 Letterbox, 5.15 The
 News, 5.25 News, 5.35 News, 5.45
 News in Action 10.40 Reflections 10.45
 News, 10.55 News, 11.05 News, 11.15
 Community, 11.16 Letter from America
 11.26 News, 11.36 News, 11.45
 9.09 News about Britain 12.15 News
 News, 12.30 Religious Service 1.00 The
 News, 1.05 News, 1.15 News, 1.25
 are 2.00 Review of the British Press 2.15
 News, 2.25 News, 2.35 News, 2.45
 News, 2.55 News, 3.00 News, 3.09 News about
 Lark 3.15 5.00 Fiction 3.30 Anything Goes
 4.00 Newsweek, 5.45 is End of Day

YORKSHIRE

London except: Starts 8.00am sitting on. 9.25 Wild World of Animals. 9.55-10.00 Bubbles. 11.00 Man's an Island. 11.20-11.30 The World of Tomorrow. 12.00 University Challenge. 1.30 Calendar. 2.00 Be your Own Boss. New series on small businesses. 2.30-3.30 Big Game with Ian Haml. 4.30-6.30 Film: Tiger Bay (Rayley Mills) Nine-year-old girl comes involved with a seaman and her mother. 5.45-6.15 The World of Tomorrow. 7.30 Johnny Carson's Tonight Show. 10.20am Five Minutes. 12.25 Goodwin.

CENTRAL

London except: Starts 8.00 am morning 9.2. 9.50-10.00 Be Your Own Boss: New series on small businesses. 10.30-12.00 Gardening Time. 1.00 pm

iversity Challenge. 1.30 Here And
w. 2.00 Benson. 2.30-3.30 Star
ccer with Gary Newton. 4.30-6.30
n; Tobruk (Rock Hudson, George
ppard). British major and German
vs try to blow up the Nazi fuel
tainers. 7.15-8.15 Hart to Hart. 11.30
nnix. 12.30 Closedown.

HTV WEST

London except: Starts 5.00am-
00 Sesame Street, 1.30-2.00 Bg
or Own Buss: New series on small
businesses, 1.00pm University
challenge, 1.50 Farming Diary, 2.00-
3.00 Served With Wings, 4.50-5.50
Dr Strangelove (Pater Sellers,
Greg C. Scott), Nuclear scientist has
grave vision of life on earth, 6.30-
7.00 News, 7.15-8.15 Hart to Hart,
8.30 Bizarre, 12.00 Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

HTV West except: 1.30pm-2.30
p Rugby, 3.30 Centre of the Earth, 4.00
series, 4.30-6.30 Film, 10.00pm
Centre of the Earth (Pat Boone,
news Mason) Jules Verne's classic

